

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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Vol III No 120

20 June 1979

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COVERAGE OF VIENNA SUMMIT, SALT II SIGNING CONTINUES

PRAVDA on 17 June Speeches

LD191209 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jun 79 pp 1-2 LD

[TASS report: "In Honor of the U.S. President"]

[Text] Vienna, 17 June--This evening L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, gave a dinner in honor of U.S. President J. Carter at the USSR Embassy in the Austrian Republic.

The dinner was attended on the Soviet side by delegation members A.A. Gromyko, D.F. Ustinov, K.U. Chernenko and N.V. Ogarkov, as well as A.M. Aleksandrov, assistant to the CPSU Central Committee general secretary; G.M. Korniyenko, USSR first deputy foreign minister; and A.F. Dobrynin, USSR ambassador to the United States;

And on the American side by C. Vance, H. Brown, Z. Brzezinski and D. Jones, as well as M. Toon, U.S. ambassador to the USSR, and other officials.

L.I. Brezhnev addressed the reception.

L.I. Brezhnev's Speech

Esteemed Mr President!

Esteemed American guests!

Comrades!

We wholeheartedly welcome President Carter and all our American partners in the talks.

Our talks are still continuing. But it is already possible to speak of certain, albeit preliminary, results.

We have finished discussing the problem of limiting strategic offensive arms. Tomorrow the SALT II treaty will be signed. I think the President will agree that this document is of special significance. The Soviet Union and the United States are taking a big new step in curbing the dangerous and costly arms race and are giving the world convincing evidence that they are capable of jointly resolving even very complex and delicate issues.

The new treaty is realistic and concrete. Its essence is the quantitative limitation of arms and the curbing of their qualitative improvement. It has been built on the principle of equality and identical security. The sides' fulfillment of all their commitments under the treaty is subject to reliable verification.

This is the result of many years of efforts and a fair balance of interests. Every provision and I would even say every word of this treaty has been weighed and pondered dozens of times.

Of course it is a compromise and could not be otherwise. Each side would like to see the text of the treaty different in some respects and more suited to itself, but each side has had to forgo something, taking its partner's legitimate interests into consideration. Any attempts to rock this complex structure, which has been erected with such difficulty, to substitute certain details in it or to draw it closer to oneself are a hopeless undertaking. The entire structure could collapse--with grave and even dangerous consequences for our relations and for the situation in the world as a whole. President Carter and other leading U.S. figures have also warned of this in their recent statements.

As for ourselves, I can assure you that the leadership of our Communist Party, the USSR Supreme Soviet and all the Soviet people are all well aware of the importance of the accord that has been reached. I am convinced that they will entirely support it and will not agree to any retreats or attempts to undermine its spirit and letter. And having concluded the treaty, the USSR will fulfill it accurately and strictly, like all the other agreements that it has signed.

The SALT II treaty will open the way to further progress toward SALT III. Perhaps that will be still more complex work. It will be necessary to take into consideration a number of serious strategic and geographic factors which have so far remained, outside the confines of our talks. But I think that, given firm will and a constructive and honest approach, we will also be able to resolve this task.

President Carter and I have also arrived at the common opinion that the SALT II accord must serve as a stimulus for more rapid progress at the talks on other questions of limiting competition in the military sphere.

It is time, finally, to reach agreement at the talks being held here, in Vienna, on the reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe. Our talks with the President have shown that both sides advocate expediting this work and believe that a useful role can be played here by the initiative and good example of the USSR and the United States. I think we will be able to take some joint steps on this plane. We will hope that one "Vienna" will urge on the other.

We attach very great significance to cooperation between the USSR and the United States in international affairs. The might and influence of our countries impose a special responsibility on them. It is not propaganda attacks nor playing at certain "combinations of forces" but wise restraint, respect for the partner's legitimate interests and the honest desire to find a common language in building a more sensible and safe world--that, so it seems to us, is the key to success. By acting in this spirit and not directing our cooperation against any third countries we will be able, I believe, to do much that is useful both for the peoples of the USSR and the United States and for mankind as a whole.

We already have good experience of cooperation in international affairs. It is sufficient to recall, for example, the joint efforts aimed at quenching the hotbed of war in the Near East in 1973. And, of course, the cooperation in preparing the all-European conference in Helsinki.

It is known that the leaders of the USSR are convinced supporters of easing international tension. But detente is only the beginning. In relations with America, as well as with other states, we would like more. We would like really good-neighborly relations--healthy, strong relations ruling out the possibility of military conflicts. For this we are prepared to do great work to draw our peoples closer together. Of course, reciprocity is needed here. Bridges of mutual understanding are something that can be built only from both sides at once.

Therefore we consider useful the exchange of opinions with President Carter on questions of developing Soviet-American relations in the spheres of the economy, science, culture and so forth. I would like to believe that here too our meeting will serve as a revitalizing impetus.

On the whole it is already clear that this meeting has proved packed and productive. Particularly valuable, I believe, is the fact that President Carter and I have endeavored to broaden the sphere of concord between our countries.

And if such meetings take place in the future, this will be a guarantee that the good cause for whose sake we have now gathered in Vienna will be continued.

I propose a toast:

--To the health of President Carter and all our American partners;

--To the American people;

--To the good relations and mutually advantageous cooperation between the USSR and the United States becoming a constant factor of international life for the good of our peoples and the cause of peace throughout the world!

J. Carter made a reply speech.

J. Carter's Speech

First, Mr Chairman, allow me to thank you for your excellent toast to friendship and mutual understanding between our countries.

Today, Mr Chairman, we have discussed a number of problems important not only to each of us but important also to the entire world. On some of these problems, particularly arms control, we were able to further our joint attempts to draw up rules limiting military rivalry between us and to lay the basis for further progress in nuclear arms control and regulation.

On some other problems we did not always reach agreement and were unable to formulate a common approach. However, we agreed to continue the search for a peaceful settlement of these differences.

Both our countries are encountering dangers arising from the changes which have swept many parts of the world today. As the two main nuclear powers we have a particular responsibility to deal with these changes.

I believe that two possible ways are open to us. There is the way of rivalry and even confrontation. Any attempt by either of our countries to exploit the turbulence existing in various parts of the world pushes us toward that. The United States can and will defend its vitally important interests if that is the way we must take.

But there is also another way--the way of restraint and, where possible, cooperation. This is the way we prefer.

I hope, Mr Chairman, that detente, which is developing in Europe as a result of the tremendous work you have done, can also encompass other parts of the world. I hope that we can work together to insure that the rules of restraint, mutual respect for each other's interests and recognition of the danger of unconstrained rivalry lead to even more stable peace in Europe and can be gradually applied in other troubled parts of our world.

In southern Africa a struggle is taking place for racial justice. We Americans know that violence is not the answer and for this reason we seek a peaceful settlement of the conflicts which have broken out there.

In Southeast Asia the war is continuing and foreign troops are invading and occupying others' territory. We believe that the war in Cambodia can only be ended by the withdrawal of foreign forces and by respecting national independence and international borders. We must all show compassion for the tens of thousands of suffering people who have been driven from their homes and their homeland. The world's complete indifference to the refugees in Europe in the thirties must not be repeated in Asia in the seventies.

In the Near East, Israel and Egypt have taken an historic step toward a comprehensive peace. Thirty years of hatred brought only war and terrorism. Only the courage of the Egyptian and Israeli leaders allows us now to embark on the path leading to a comprehensive peace.

On all these important international questions the United States favors the peaceful settlement of differences and opposes the use of force.

In precisely the same way we favor the adoption of measures to bring the instruments of war under control.

The SALT treaty which we will sign here will lay a good foundation. It will be strengthened by other steps in arms control--steps which we are seeking together. Let us build on that foundation so that we can narrow our differences in a spirit of respect for the independence of all countries and of value for every human being.

Let us both decide never to use offensive weapons against any country in an act of aggression.

Let us oppose the use of foreign armed forces in troubled parts of the world and encourage the peaceful settlement of disputes among peoples directly involved.

Mr Chairman, never in the history of the world have two countries ever had a more crucial responsibility to act with restraint and to seek mutual accord than the United States and the Soviet Union have now. We have many historical and ideological differences and many differences in our economic and social systems. Mr Chairman, we are both concerned about the future, and I am confident that by displaying honesty and good will we can achieve progress toward more secure and more peaceful conditions in the world.

I propose a toast:

To my new friend, Chairman Brezhnev!

To the heroic Soviet people!

To the resolute efforts of both our states to curb the nuclear arms race!

TASS on Carter Speech to Congress

LD191258 Moscow TASS in English 1252 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

["President Carter's Remarks to Joint Session of Congress"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, June 19, TASS--U.S. President Jimmy Carter made a speech at a joint session of the two chambers of Congress on the results of the Vienna talks with Leonid Brezhnev, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

About two hours ago, he said, I returned from three days of intensive talks with President Leonid Brezhnev. During these past three days, we have moved closer to the goal of stability and security in Soviet-American relations. Together we laid a foundation on which we can build a more stable relationship between our two countries.

This week, the President continued, I will deliver to the Senate of the United States the complete and signed text of the second strategic arms limitation agreement, SALT II. "SALT II is the most detailed, far-reaching, comprehensive treaty in the history of arms control." Its provisions are interwoven by the give and take of the negotiating process. SALT II is a carefully balanced whole, and it will make the world a safer place for both sides.

This treaty, Jimmy Carter next said, is of great importance because it reduces the danger of nuclear war, leads directly to the next stage in controlling nuclear weapons, is an absolutely indispensable precondition for moving on to much deeper and more significant cuts in strategic armaments in SALT III.

Emphasising that SALT II does not harm the security of the United States, Jimmy Carter urged the Senate to ratify it. Failure to ratify the treaty, he warned, would lead to further stockpiling of strategic arms would increase the dangers of nuclear proliferations among other nations, would increase tensions in the world, with the greater likelihood that other inevitable problems could escalate into confrontations between the big powers. Pointing out next that the other Western countries strongly support the treaty, the President emphasised that if the Senate were to reject the treaty it would be a serious blow on the United States' mutual relations with its allies.

Jimmy Carter pointed out that a wide range of questions of Soviet-American relations had been discussed at the Vienna talks.

Declaring that the United States was striving for the strengthening of peace, Jimmy Carter at the same time repeated former statements on the United States intention to "modernize and strengthen" its armed forces, the military NATO bloc, on Washington's desire to solve problems of arms control, as he said "from positions of strength." The President dwelt in detail on the American strategic arms programs.

Bovin on SALT II, Senate Debate

LD191434 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1140 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

["Topical Problems of International Life" program: "The SALT II Treaty--An Important Step in the Curbing of the Arms Race," presented by Aleksandr Bovin, IZVESTIYA political observer]

[Text] So the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting has ended. In Vienna yesterday, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and James Carter signed the treaty on the limitation of strategic offensive arms, SALT II, and other related documents.

As you know comrades, the talks in Vienna extended far beyond the bounds of military-strategic problems proper. They touched, in essence, upon the whole spectrum of Soviet-U.S. relations. There was an examination of the basic points of world politics and there was an investigation into the prospects of further efforts in the cause of reducing the threat of world war.

But nevertheless, the pivot of the Vienna meeting consisted of questions linked with the limitation of strategic arms, and therefore the main results of Vienna lie precisely on this plane. What are these results? Let us examine this question.

The main result is that yet another major step has been taken along the path of limiting strategic offensive arms, that is, of the most terrible, the most destructive weaponry of our time. This in turn means first, that the probability of a nuclear clash between the United States and the Soviet Union has been reduced, and second, that the way has been opened up to a new, third round of talks, for a transition from the limitation of arms to a real reduction of them.

It is hardly necessary to prove that the SALT II agreement fully corresponds with the national interests of the Soviet Union. It permits us to have strategic forces which reliably guarantee our security. At the same time, it strengthens control over the nuclear arms race, which also corresponds with the interests of our country's security.

In all, the road to Vienna took 10 years, and, incidentally, it began in that same Vienna where in 1969 experts from both sides sat down opposite each other for the first time and began to resolve a task which, as it seemed to many then, could not be resolved. But it was resolved. In May 1972, the first agreements on the limitation of strategic arms were signed in Moscow. They substantially limited the deployment of antimissile defense systems, and also froze the then-existing quantities of land-based intercontinental ballistic missiles and of submarine-launched missiles.

This Moscow agreement introduced into the nuclear arms race for the first time some elements, albeit minimal, of restraint, certainty and predictability. But modern strategic thinking is not always in line with so-called commonsense. It would seem that the stronger the antimissile defenses the better, and the less the threat of a nuclear-missile war. Why then were the antimissile defense systems the first victims of the Soviet-U.S. accords in the military strategic sphere? Let us try to reason a little on this theme.

Let us suppose that a potential enemy--for us this is the United States and for the Americans it is the Soviet Union--deploys an antimissile defense system which protects the country's basic vital centers, including the areas where intercontinental ballistic missiles are based. This may signify the following: Either the given enemy is preparing to deliver a first strike, or he is capable, or thinks he is capable, of repelling a retaliatory strike, or the given enemy is capable of repelling a first strike and of still retaining the capability for an effective counterstrike.

Well, it is perfectly understandable in both of these cases that one of the two potential enemies will preserve a clear strategic advantage. And the other? The other, of course, will not be reconciled to lagging behind strategically. As a result, instead of stability there is a forced arms race, both in defensive and in offensive arms. So in as far as the destabilizing significance of antimissile defense systems was understood, both the Soviet Union and the United States virtually gave up deploying them, or to be precise, each side has the right to deploy only one such system.

Thus since 1972 the strategic situation has become somewhat more simplified: Each side must reckon with the fact that he who decides on a first strike will have a counterstrike delivered against him which will be unacceptable in its consequences. In other words, it is precisely the preservation of a retaliatory-strike potential which is regarded as the best guarantee of security. This is that same balance of fear about which we have all read and heard, and under conditions of which we live.

The balance of fear is a fact, but it is by no means a state which may be considered normal. After all, mankind is worthy of a better fate than living beneath the sword of Damocles of the nuclear threat.

Moreover, there are still fairly influential forces in the world that are striving to raise the level of the balance of fear and to raise the nuclear ceilings, and this is not difficult to understand: The more arms, the more fear and mistrust, the greater the risk of war, and the more destructive its consequences. Hence a most important task has been set by our country; to begin the search for paths leading from the balance of fear to the balance of interests, to the gradual limitation and lowering of the arms level, while strictly observing, naturally, the equality and equal security of the sides.

In part, this task was resolved as long ago as 1972 during the work on SALT I, but the SALT II agreement is yet another substantial step in the very same direction. This step did not come easily, as you all know. The Americans more than once changed their position, and were sometimes crafty. There was clearly not enough trust in each other's intentions. Therefore, the positions drew together very slowly. But in the end, the measure of mutual concessions was found which formed the basis of the necessary compromise.

A detailed analysis of the Vienna documents, which you have probably already read, does not fit in the framework of our broadcast today. I just want to single out the main thing: For the first time--and I stress for the first time--an agreement embraces all types of carriers of strategic nuclear arms: That is, land-based intercontinental ballistic missiles, ballistic missiles launched from submarines, and strategic bombers. For the first time, an agreement fixes full equality of sides regarding the total quantity of all means of delivery. The effect of the treaty should lead to this quantity not exceeding--as is written in the treaty--2,250 missiles for each side.

For the first time, equal sublimits are established for individual types of carriers: For example, each side may have no more than 820 land-based launch installations with multiple, independently targetable warheads, and each side may have no more than 1,320 missiles with multiple warheads in all, including aeroplanes equipped with cruise missiles, and so on.

For the first time, the number of warheads which may be fitted to one missile is limited. For the first time also, a quantitative limitation on the arms race is established. For example, each side may deploy only one new system of intercontinental ballistic missiles.

Of course--and all understand this and are thinking about this--the levels which have been fixed are enormous. Of course, we would all have liked more, but one must not leap across the real circumstances. It was said over 2,000 years ago that swords must be beaten into plowshares. But for all these years people have acted in precisely the opposite way: They have been beating plowshares into swords, and it is very difficult to break this inertia, particularly since there exist in the West powerful social groups not at all interested in increasing the arms race.

Nevertheless comrades, I want to say again that the first steps have already been taken, and the fact that they have already been taken, the fact that they have been continued in Vienna, permits one to hope that subsequent steps will also be taken.

In any case, the Soviet Union is doing the maximum possible in order that it should be precisely so and, in all, our position on disarmament and nuclear disarmament wholly and totally corresponds with our overall approach to international affairs and with our desire, our constant desire for detente and peaceful coexistence.

For the Americans of course, the problem here is much more complicated. In turning toward talks and cooperation with us at the end of the 1960's, they essentially had to restructure their whole foreign policy philosophy. They had to give up their traditional, customary ideas, according to which our country, the Soviet Union, acted as the embodiment of almost absolute evil which has to be fought with all possible means.

So this philosophy, which was leading to deadlock and was leading to disaster, had to be abandoned. It had to be abandoned above all because the postwar years had led to a radical change in the correlation of world forces. The strengthening and the development of socialism and the changes which gripped the Third World sharply narrowed the opportunities of imperialism and faced it with the necessity of giving up the dogmas of the cold war.

Of no less significance were the changes in the military strategic field, that which is called the military-technical revolution. We all know the formula: War is the continuation of politics by other forcible means. This formula has a dual meaning. On the one hand, it simply states the fact: Any war, by whom, whenever and by whatever arms it is waged, is the continuation of the policy which the given class or, say, the given state, was pursuing before the war. This is true for all wars. But on the other hand, the aforementioned formula seems to point to a choice. You may, it says to a statesman, achieve the aim which has been set either by peaceful, or by forcible means; both ways are, in principle, acceptable. It is necessary only to carefully weigh the conditions and your own possibilities--on the whole, the complete totality of circumstances.

But now that a vast destructive potential has been accumulated, now that the predictable consequences of world thermonuclear war pose the question of the fate of civilization, no statesmen, no military strategist--if, of course, he is in his right mind--can regard nuclear-missile war as a means of achieving any political aim.

Starting such a war in conditions of nuclear parity means dooming oneself to suicide. That is why a missile war cannot be seen as one of the possibilities for implementing policy. And as this came to be recognized, at first by scientists, then by politicians and then by military men, so the voices in the West and the United States calling for a stepping back from the verge of the abyss, for lessening the threat of a world catastrophe and for finding a common language with the Soviet Union grew stronger, and Moscow, then Vladivostok, and then Vienna have been witness to the fact that political reason is gradually gaining the upper hand and that the line which the Soviet Union has for a long time been consistently defending in world politics is becoming a reality and is being embodied in interstate agreements.

A great thing, comrades, a very great thing has been done in Vienna. But the situation remains complex. In the U.S. Senate, which has to ratify the Vienna treaty by 67 votes out of 100, there is a group of senators who actively oppose SALT II. Some say that the treaty is more favorable to the Soviet Union than to America, and so it must either be rejected or improved. Others lament about the absence of any system of strict checking on implementation of the treaty. Yet others strive to tie up SALT II with the situation in, let's say, Angola or Afghanistan. All this cannot be serious in the least [vse eto po menshey mere ne seryezno]. The treaty is not a prize for good behavior, and, incidentally, if one is talking about behavior, we have our own opinion about American behavior in the world arena.

But it would not occur to anybody in Moscow to tie up the problems of SALT II with the presence, shall we say, of U.S. troops in the Philippines or South Korea, or, let's say, U.S. support for Latin American dictators and the continuing arming of Israel, and now also Egypt. Naturally, we do not like all this, but we do not think that the situation can be improved by deferring SALT II and thus increasing the threat of a Soviet-U.S. conflict. Things are rather the other way about.

As far as superiority is concerned, the Americans here are clearly leading emotions astray. The fact is that for a long time superiority was in their favor; this time is now past and will never return. There now exists nuclear-missile parity, and the treaty consolidates, or fixes it. But for people who have become accustomed to being in a privileged position, the very idea of equality in this sphere seems intolerable, and the loss of privilege is felt as being advantageous for the Soviet Union.

In general, the Senate discussion will be extremely stormy, and the more noise and passion is brought out about this discussion, the more the choice facing the United States will stand out in relief. It is a choice which represents a test of the maturity and seriousness of Washington's foreign policy in fact. Opposition to SALT means supporting an intensification of the elements of confrontation in Soviet-U.S. relations, increasing the threat of world war and stepping up the arms race. Opposing SALT means supporting a return to the cold war, and a general deterioration of the world political climate, which would primarily affect Europe, but not only Europe.

Much is being said at the moment in the United States about the need to adapt U.S. foreign policy to the realities of a fast-changing world. The outcome of the debates concerning SALT II will be precisely the decisive test which will let everyone find out whether it prefers to remain in the world of yesterday. For the time being, it is difficult to say how the affair will end on Capitol Hill. Working on the side of the opponents of SALT are the inertia of the cold war, anti-Soviet prejudices and the interests of the military-industrial complex. Against them are the national interests of the United States, which both Carter and representatives of his government, including the Pentagon leadership, are defending--noticeably late, it is true, but energetically. Against them are the NATO allies, who understand what the failure of SALT would mean for Western Europe. Against them is virtually all world public opinion.

The coming into force of SALT II would permit the commencement of new and positive shifts in all directions of the relaxation of tension in the 1980's. Postponement of the treaty would cast the world back to the times of the cold war. That is the state of the issue. However, we shall hope for the best, and on this note--a note, let us say, of moderate optimism--I would like to end today's commentary.

Interview With Zhukov

AU191726 Vienna ARBEITER-ZEITUNG in German 19 Jun 79 p 2 AU

[Interview with Georgiy Aleksandrovich Zhukov, Moscow PRAVDA political observer and member of the Parliamentary Group of the Soviet of Nationalities, in Vienna--date not given]

[Text] ARBEITER-ZEITUNG: What do you regard as the most important result of the Vienna summit meeting?

Zhukov: The SALT II treaty. In the 1950's and 1960's no one could have imagined that the United States and the Soviet Union would hand one another a list of their most secret and sophisticated weapons and agree to establish on both sides the same level, or, an essential equivalence of the strategic armed forces. This treaty shows us our progress on the road of detente. Mutual confidence has increased. We would have liked to have a treaty that would have gone further, but at present it is only possible to adopt the road of compromise. This treaty is the basis on which one can advance further in this direction. We hope that SALT III will start soon. This is the main thing.

ARBEITER-ZEITUNG: And what is your opinion about the talks held in Vienna?

Zhukov: I hope that this exchange of opinions will lead to progress at pending negotiations in the field of conventional weapons--the problem of underground nuclear weapons tests and force reductions in central Europe. We have urged a quicker advance so as to obtain concrete results. As Brezhnev put it: We hope that one Vienna, the Vienna of SALT II, will lead to the other Vienna, that of force reductions. It would be asking too much to believe that everything could be settled at one short meeting. But there has been a frank and useful exchange so as to better understand the other side's position and to avoid misunderstandings.

ARBEITER-ZEITUNG: General Secretary Brezhnev is 72 years old. He will not control the USSR's destiny forever. Will his successors continue his policy?

Zhukov: Personalities do not determine a country's policy. These are relations between the states and not between politicians. Since several American-Soviet treaties were signed, there have been three U.S. Presidents, but the treaties are still in force. The same goes for the Soviet Union. There is no successor problem. This is not Brezhnev's personal policy but the policy of the party.

ARBEITER-ZEITUNG: What will happen if the U.S. Senate does not ratify the SALT II treaty?

Zhukov: We do not interfere in the internal affairs of the United States. But Carter has stated very clearly: Should the Senate refuse ratification, then the United States will stand before the whole world as a warmonger.

ARBEITER-ZEITUNG: How did you find the press facilities provided by the Austrian side?

Zhukov: It was an excellent organization and we are very grateful to the Austrians. Everything functioned flawlessly to facilitate our work. Perhaps the UN city could be the place for the SALT III talks.

Beglov in LE FIGARO on SALT

LD191525 Paris LE FIGARO in French 18 Jun 79 p 3 LD

[Article by NOVOSTI commentator Spartak Beglov: "The Logic of Detente"]

[Text] The meeting between Leonid Brezhnev and Jimmy Carter in Vienna has made it possible to look at world policy and Soviet-American relations in the broad context of the existing situation and the role played by the two powers. [paragraph continues]

In cases like this, factors of a temporary nature give way to objective realities which take first place because of their fundamental significance.

This must undoubtedly have occurred when the two leaders explained their views on the international situation and the state of bilateral relations during their first talk.

Despite all differences between and specific features of the two social systems, the primary foreign policy objective of the two countries is to rule out nuclear war and develop peaceful relations based on sovereignty, equality and mutual advantage.

Not only the Soviet and U.S. peoples but also all other countries in the world are affected by this policy. Good will and realism are needed above all to insure that this policy is implemented. There can be no detente without them.

However, opponents of a normalization of relations between the USSR and the United States are trying to prevent public opinion from seeing facts from a different viewpoint by drawing people's attention to circumstances of a temporary nature, provoking artificial tensions where there is no reason for any or indeed presenting the other side's intentions in a false light. Leonid Brezhnev mentioned two examples of this during the Vienna dialog. The first concerns the story about a "Soviet threat" and the second, the story about "the hand of Moscow."

It is strange that the greater the Soviet contribution to the development of peaceful relations among states and the more numerous the concrete Soviet proposals relating to arms limitation and to the reduction of the danger of another war, then the more often lucubrations concerning Soviet policy are zealously propagated.

Detente is not taking place in a void but in a living, varied and changing world. Several peoples--for example, the Angolan or Mozambique peoples--won the chance of determining their own future only in recent years. This coincided with other parallel processes in world politics, including detente. However, some Western politicians obstinately refuse to see these parallels and persist in seeing the hand of Moscow everywhere. These are attempts to portray the social developments in certain countries and the peoples' struggle for independence and social progress as "intrigues and maneuvers by Moscow."

It is true that the Soviets are bound to be proud of the fact that they are always on the same side of the barricade as other people's liberation movements. It is this which is the strength of the ideology and politics produced by the greatest revolution of our century. However, it is also logical to mention another immutable principle of Soviet policy: The USSR is opposed to interference in the internal affairs of other countries. As Leonid Brezhnev has stressed, this proves that there is no substance in the attempts to attribute to the Soviet Union the responsibility which rests with the objective course of history and, what is more, to use it as a pretext for jeopardizing bilateral relations.

Nothing could be more reasonable than trusting that the realism, perspicacity and wisdom of statesmen--a trust expressed by the Soviet leader in Vienna--will finally triumph in international affairs and in Soviet-U.S. relations. This trust is based on the philosophy of historical optimism which characterizes Soviet foreign policy.

Moscow also expressed the view that the successful conclusion of the difficult preliminary negotiations on SALT II shows that the U.S. administration and all sensible Americans want more stable bilateral relations. Giving the opponents of detente the initiative would mean deceiving the hopes of two peoples and hundreds of millions of men in the whole world.

Praise for U.S. Administration Attitude

LD151303 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 15 Jun 79 LD

[Vladislav Koznyakov commentary]

[Text] It is a truly outstanding event in Soviet-American relations. For the first time in the last 5 years the top leaders of the two countries will meet to discuss the most important political problems. That will be the first meeting between Leonid Brezhnev and James Carter and they will approve and sign a new Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty. They will also deal with other issues of Soviet-American relations and with major international problems. It was officially announced in both Moscow and Washington that the main goal of the talks is to further promote the relaxation of tensions and the consolidation of general peace.

Now the question is how far is each side willing to go to come to terms on various issues under discussion and thus contribute to mutual trust and understanding. In my view, the United States administration's attitude towards the signing of SALT II shows that finally a realistic line has got the upper hand in its policy in this particular area. And this is in full conformity with the aspirations of the vast majority of Americans, who despite the vigorous political struggle over the SALT II in the United States continue to back the new treaty.

As for the Soviet Union's attitude towards the matter, it is resolutely clear. The development of relations with the United States poses no problems for the Soviet people or government. It is this country's permanent policy to improve relations with the United States for the sake of strengthening peace and bringing about disarmament.

What is noteworthy is that our country does not seek any unilateral advantages. It aims at working out mutually acceptable compromises, which would serve the purpose of strengthening peace and of bettering relations between the two countries. This applies to SALT II, which in fact does not fully meet all Soviet wishes. The USSR would prefer a better treaty, but it has agreed to the one prepared, because it is a reasonable compromise which considers the interests of both sides. As Leonid Brezhnev said, of the whole the SALT II is a great and good undertaking.

In various important ways the agreement will put up a barrier until 1985 to stocking the most destructive and costly weapons, and it will reflect the principle of equality and equal security. And the same applies to all other issues of Soviet-American relations. The USSR is ready to come to terms with the United States on far-reaching understandings in developing cooperation in various fields. It is our conviction that the understandings in disarmament and in other areas are absolutely necessary if we want to avoid a nuclear war. This was many times noted by Soviet leaders and this reflects the basic principles of Soviet foreign policy which were reaffirmed in 1976 at the 25th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party.

As is known, in the early 1970's the Soviet Union and the United States concluded a number of very important agreements on their mutual relationship, on the limitation of strategic arms, on the prevention of nuclear war and on cooperation in various fields. Both sides took on an obligation to pursue the policy of peaceful coexistence. The agreements have somewhat reduced the danger of nuclear war and now they are a solid base on which the further development of Soviet-American relations may be insured.

The Soviet Union is prepared to follow this line. It goes without saying that the SALT II will be the biggest act ever accomplished in the name of restraining the nuclear arms race. And besides, the Vienna meeting will provide an opportunity for promoting a general improvement in the relations between the two countries and thereby in the entire international climate.

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This was recently once again noted by Leonid Brezhnev. He said: We shall go to Vienna fully prepared for an active and constructive dialogue and expect the stand of the United States side to be the same.

USSR-U.S. Ties, World Situation To Gain

LD191552 Moscow TASS in English 1536 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

["Realism Has Triumphed"--TASS headline]

[Text] Vienna, June 19, TASS--TASS correspondents Oleg Anichkin and Gennadiy Shishkin report:

One more important page of world history has been turned in Vienna. This is the keynote of numerous comments on the summit meeting between Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, and President James Carter of the United States. The signing of the strategic offensive arms limitation treaty, which has crowned this meeting, is assessed by everybody as an important contribution to the cause of further curbing the arms race in the sphere that is particularly sensitive and dangerous for the human race.

Along with SALT II, other important Soviet-American documents associated to it have been signed as a result of the summit meeting. They have been received with satisfaction not only by the Soviet and American peoples, but also by millions of people throughout the world, who hopefully expect from the two great powers a new contribution to the policy of detente, to the cause of further improving the international climate on our planet.

Conclusion of SALT II is the result of several years of joint strenuous work done by the Government of the Soviet Union and the U.S. administration. Leonid Brezhnev and James Carter stressed in their speeches during the signing of the treaty that it was an honest and equitable agreement taking into account the interests of both sides and ensuring their security.

The entire almost seven-year-long work to draft this treaty and its successful completion in Vienna confirmed once again the possibility of concluding Soviet-American agreements, essentially proceeding from the common interest of preventing a nuclear catastrophe, a new senseless round of the arms race. During the negotiations both the Soviet Union and the United States displayed great statesmanship by refusing to regard them as a means of obtaining some sort of unilateral advantages and interfering in each other's domestic affairs.

The SALT II agreement is of tremendous importance in itself. It goes much further than the Moscow SALT I agreement signed seven years ago. Fixed this time are not only quantitative, but also qualitative limitations on the most destructive and dangerous of weapons.

It should be borne in mind, however, that this very important practical disarmament measure cannot fully stop the arms race. Much has yet to be done to close the other channels of increasing the weapons arsenals. This treaty also has a broader significance, because, as repeatedly stressed by Leonid Brezhnev in his Vienna statements, the signing of SALT II signifies another step along the road leading to real disarmament. The Soviet Union holds that it should be followed up by even more determined steps in that direction. The Soviet side is convinced that this treaty will help to liven up also other ongoing negotiations on the reduction of armaments and disarmament both between the Soviet Union and the United States, and on a broader basis.

In the opinion of the majority of realistically-minded political leaders throughout the world, achievement of such an important agreement as SALT II will promote the strengthening of mutual confidence among the peoples, will allow people throughout the world to look into the future with hope and optimism, will open up new prospects for the development of international relations.

After the completion of the Soviet-American summit meeting, the leaders of both states expressed the view that it was successful, useful and productive. L.I. Brezhnev's and J. Carter's negotiations allowed them to exchange views on a broad range of questions concerning the interests of the peoples of both countries, problems of safeguarding world peace and international security.

Brought to light at the Vienna meeting, of course, were also differences in the assessments and approaches of the Soviet Union and the United States to different aspects both of Soviet-American cooperation and several international issues. Despite this, however, the discussion in Vienna was useful without doubt. As noted in the course of the negotiations by Leonid Brezhnev, it helped to clarify the corresponding stands of both countries, to explain to each other frankly several questions, and on the whole to improve mutual understanding. It is clear that Soviet-American relations, and, thereby, the international situation as a whole, can only stand to gain from such a frank and serious dialogue.

An important aspect of the Soviet-American summit meeting was that it proceeded in a spirit of goodwill and frankness. It allowed the leaders of the two great powers to get to know each other better, to establish personal contact, which will help both the Soviet Union and the United States to go on searching jointly for solutions to complex problems of Soviet-American relations in the interests of the peoples of both our countries, consolidation of international detente and universal security.

The Vienna summit meeting was useful, businesslike and constructive. People of good will welcome the peace-loving policy of the Soviet Union due to the persistent efforts of which this meeting was made possible. They pay tribute of respect to Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, the architect of the policy of detente.

Summit 'Important Chapter' in Annals

LD191557 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Jun 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Reportage by special correspondents V. Matveyev and N. Novikov: "The World Waits and Hopes"]

[Excerpt] Vienna--Seven years ago, when the USSR and the United States marked the end of the first stage of the SALT talks with the well-known agreements which placed the first barrier in the path of the most destructive weapons, L.I. Brezhnev spoke of the opening pages of the annals of disarmament and called on all governments and all peoples of the world "jointly to fill out the subsequent pages of these annals, right up to the last page--general and complete disarmament."

The Vienna meeting between L.I. Brezhnev and J. Carter (the U.S. President arrived here in the evening of 14 June) is called upon to inscribe an important chapter in these great annals. It is neither simple nor easy to fill out these pages.

Many commentators in the world are writing of the sides' long and persistent efforts at the talks. They pay tribute to our country's purposefulness and persistence--in the face of frequently unexpected fluctuations of the U.S. internal political scene--in seeking agreed solutions to very complex political and technical questions.

Our country approaches talks on all aspects of the disarmament problem with a sense of great responsibility for the face of world peace. There are no trivial or secondary issues for us here. Progress in any sector helps to unravel the whole tight tangle tied by the instigators of the arms race. Among the more than 100 different proposals advanced by the Soviet Union during the postwar period on the problem of disarmament, the leading place belongs to measures aimed at curbing and then ending the nuclear arms race.

These days the Austrian press is publishing diagrams, tables and statistics in which the term "nuclear megatonnage" appears most frequently. It is pointed out that the destructive potential of the weapons now accumulated in the world's nuclear arsenals exceeds by more than 1 million times the explosive force of the atomic bomb which reduced to ashes entire districts of Hiroshima in August 1945. Thousands of people in Hiroshima and Nagasaki are still suffering and dying from the consequences of the American atomic bombs dropped 34 years ago.

The Soviet Union's aim is to secure a situation whereby nuclear energy serves exclusively peaceful ends. This aim accords with the interests of millions of people on the continents. This is why their gaze is turned toward Vienna these days.

Sides' 'Responsible Attitude'

LD200541 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Excerpts] The public in different countries welcomes the outcome of the Soviet-American summit in Vienna and the signing of the new agreement on limiting strategic arms. In the commentary that follows our observer Vladislav Kozyakov examines the importance of these latest Soviet-American agreements:

It has fallen to the (?sphere) of the Soviet Union and the United States to bear a special responsibility for reducing the threat of nuclear war and for strengthening universal peace. The outcome of the Vienna talks between Leonid Brezhnev and Jimmy Carter and the signing of SALT II prove that in this particular case the two sides have demonstrated a responsible attitude to problems which can determine the peaceful future of the Soviet and American peoples and of all of mankind.

It is not too difficult to visualize the international consequences of a SALT II failure. The dangerous arms race would have become even more perilous. There would be no qualitative or quantitative limits on boosting the numbers of missiles, submarines and bombers carrying nuclear weapons. Within a very short time, we would have a situation in which it would be impossible to set any limits on the development of even more lethal weapons of mass annihilation. This prospect is unacceptable to the Soviet Union. As talks have continued on SALT II over the recent years, the Soviet side kept up its diplomatic efforts in order to work out a mutually acceptable agreement.

In doing so, the Soviet side did not intend to secure any unilateral advantages. The objective was to reach an agreement based on the principles of equality and equal security of the two sides. This Soviet approach to SALT II reflects the essence of our foreign policy. It is not aimed at surpassing the United States in some types of arms, as certain American figures maintain. The Soviet policy, which has been determined by the 25th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party and which has been consistently championed by the government, is submitted [committed] to the objective of reaching an agreement with the United States and other countries on concrete disarmament measures.

The incessant efforts by General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party and President Leonid Brezhnev, to promote major international agreements in the interests of international relaxation and peace, including the signing of SALT II, have received broad international recognition.

And the people of the United States can hardly link their hopes for the future with endlessly growing military spendings, with the development of new and more costly types of lethal weapons and with endless military preparations. This prospect, however, is envisaged by certain figures in the Senate who oppose the agreement signed in Vienna. But despite their persistent attempts to discredit SALT II, the overwhelming majority of the Americans support the agreement. They support the policy of international relaxation and favor better Soviet-American relations. This is proved by the latest opinions polls conducted in the United States. Advantages offered to the Soviet and to the American peoples by compromise agreements on limiting military preparations are too obvious to be obliterated by the worn-out phraseology about an alleged Soviet military threat. SALT II represents a mutually acceptable compromise which has been produced by persistent efforts of the two sides over many years.

The coming into force of SALT II will strengthen the security of the Soviet Union, of the United States and other nations by reducing the levels of military confrontation. This provides the only realistic basis for preventing nuclear war and for consolidating universal peace.

World Response to SALT II

LD192148 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Commentary by Spartak Beglov, political observer of the NOVOSTI press agency]

[Text] The broad and incessant flow of international reactions to the Soviet-American summit meeting and the signing of the treaty on strategic offensive weapons limitation clearly shows all the expectations and hopes which hundreds of people on our earth have placed on the Vienna meeting; hopes that the danger of nuclear war will be pushed back still further and that the cause of universal peace will receive new and significant reinforcement.

I, as a journalist who has just been in Vienna as an eyewitness of this meeting, was able to see what intense attention the representatives of the press and politicians of dozens of countries from all around the world devoted to the great work being done by the leaders of the USSR and the United States in the interests of widening the field of cooperation between the two states. This is understandable. The results of the negotiations and contents of the treaty signed are directed, as Comrade Brezhnev stressed, toward protecting the most sacred right of every man--the right to life. This laconic assessment expresses not only the final aim of the Vienna meeting, but also the whole foreign policy line of the Soviet state in the international field, permeated with deep humaneness and love of peace.

The particular significance of the SALT II treaty is that a lot of the provisions and principles it contains are for the first time made the subject of an agreement. For the first time, provision is made not only for the quantitative limitation of strategic nuclear weapons, but also for restraining their qualitative development.

Thus, the world will be able to move out of the area of unpredictability and impossibility of verification of the development of the major arsenals of nuclear development, which is in itself fraught with most great dangers, and enter an area of stability, which will enable a start to be made on working out subsequent measures, not only for the limitation, but for the reduction of strategic weapons.

At the moment of the completion of the negotiations in Vienna and the signing of the treaty, the majority of international observers were (?quite) united in the just conclusion that as a result of the Vienna meeting, a great step forward had also been taken in the general improvement of Soviet-American relations, and therefore of the whole international climate.

The warm approval for the results of the Vienna meeting by the broad international public demonstrates still more graphically the futility of the attempts of the enemies of detente to justify the buildup of armaments and to put obstacles in the way of the agreement reached in Vienna. These results speak eloquently of the fact that detente lives and works for the peaceful future of mankind, and makes it still more necessary to take more and more practical steps and reach agreements, to strengthen the international security, the foundation of universal peace.

Military Expert on SALT

LD151415 Turin LA STAMPA in Italian 15 Jun 79 p 13 LD

[Livio Zanotti undated interview in Moscow with military expert Svyatoslav Kozlov: "Soviet Answers to Western Objections"]

[Text] Moscow--Official Soviet opinion does not conceal the fear that the SALT II treaty signed by Brezhnev could become embroiled by the objections of the U.S. Senate, which will be called on to ratify it. Nevertheless, it is not replying explicitly to critics of the accord. I approached Gen Svyatoslav Kozlov, who fought in World War II ("From Stalingrad to Vienna") and who is now in the reserves. He is one of the best known specialists on military topics working for the press. I scarcely begin talking when he interrupts me with broad gestures of denial.

"What do you mean, we are not replying? Brezhnev did so 2 days ago; and read today's PRAVDA...."

[Question] What I mean is that it is not replying specifically to their arguments. Allow me to refer to some of them. To start with, they maintain that Carter should not have accepted the recent exchange of two Soviets jailed in the United States for espionage, for five Soviets imprisoned in the USSR for dissidence because in so doing he allegedly approved a barter which was unequal both politically and morally.

[Answer] The problem is outside my area of competence. Having said that, I personally believe that when two governments reach understandings of this kind they do so in the interests of their respective states.

[Question] The objection is that by accepting similar exchanges one is helping to give the impression that something important is changing in the Soviet attitude, when that is not the case.

[Answer] It is very difficult to persuade people who reason on the basis of prejudices. I would advise them to proceed from the facts and not from emotions. [paragraph continues]

It is not the first time that we have made gestures of this kind. The aim is always the same: to eliminate or at least to reduce the complications in relations with other countries. This does not imply a change in the USSR's principled positions.

[Question] What positions?

[Answer] Our verdict on dissidents, for instance.

[Question] As for contradictions, the critics of the SALT treaty--and others besides--observe that you talk in terms of interference in your internal affairs with regard to the West's interest in, and solidarity with, Soviet dissidents: But that did not prevent you from acting from time to time in favor of Rosenbergs, Angela Davis, Wilmington 10s....

[Answer] In the USSR there is state and there is public opinion: Nothing prevents the latter from expressing judgements or adopting stances. In the West, however, it is the state bodies and representatives who interfere. I do not remember the USSR ever having done anything similar. Of course we have our idea of human rights and we intend to defend it.

[Question] The problem of controls has been raised in connection with the SALT II treaty. More than one expert asserts that controls are inadequate: This is one reason why much importance is being attached to the USSR's general policy, to its overall image. It is the measure of its credibility.

[Answer] This argument does not stand up. It is the American leaders themselves who state that they have the necessary means to monitor observance of the accord. And the most responsible ones among them have said repeatedly that the USSR has never violated the commitments made under the SALT I treaty. Nor has anyone ever been able to accuse us of even minimally transgressing the agreement on bacteriological weapons. This is by way of proving that there are controls and that they do work. We too could reintroduce doubts of this kind--and why not? We do not do so because we refuse to believe that the foremost leaders of a nation would prepare to sign a pact with the hidden intention of not observing it, in whole or in part. Who would dare to take such a step?

[Question] They say that the Salt II agreement is depriving Europe of the U.S. nuclear umbrella, reducing its defense flexibility and thus effectiveness in the event of a hypothetical Soviet attack.

[Answer] Who could seriously support such a viewpoint? The present military balances are being frozen and nothing will shift from the existing balance of forces.

[Question] One argument is that the hypothetical Soviet nuclear attack on Europe would neutralize its retaliatory capacity. It would be necessary to resort to the arsenal based in the United States, but that would not be enough to defend both American and European territory.

[Answer] The American weapons defending Europe will stay where they are, even under the new treaty. Furthermore, the United States has extra forces to protect Europe: The 6th Fleet, the bombers based in Britain and the strategic submarines. These are regarded as tactical weapons, though nonetheless capable of hitting the USSR. Furthermore, Europe has the NATO system, not to mention the ICBM missiles held by the British and the French.

[Question] How is one to interpret Brezhnev's statement that SALT II must be not just a military agreement, but a step along the road to intensifying U.S.-Soviet relations?

[Answer] It means first and foremost that we must strengthen the prevention of a nuclear conflict. Acquire greater mutual trust in all fields.

[Question] For instance?

[Answer] There are various negotiations under way to reduce armed forces in central Europe, to ban nuclear experiments, to abandon chemical weapons, to limit the international arms trade. They are separate negotiations, but the success of the SALT talks could make them all less difficult.

MX, SALT Inconsistent

LD160232 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 15 Jun 79 LD

[Vadim Nekrasov commentary]

[Text] Speaking of the characteristic feature of the present moment, I would like to say that, even for the opponents of the relaxation of tension who have been questioning the effectiveness of this trend up to recently, it became clear all of a sudden that the policy of relaxation does exist as a political reality of our time. Moreover, it seems to be capable of influencing world developments and this influence will be increasing under favorable circumstances.

What I have in mind is the Soviet-American talks on the signing of the treaty that will limit strategic weapons, the SALT II treaty. The attention of the public in all the capitals of the world is now focused on the Vienna talks between President Carter of the United States and President Brezhnev of the Soviet Union. The treaty, the contents of which have not yet been published but are known to politicians and the public in a general outline, is winning approval both as an essential factor of the relaxation in the military field and as an outstanding political event capable of exerting a favorable influence on the general state of world relations.

The socialist countries of Europe stated their position with regard to the treaty on many occasions and formulated it last time at the recent session of the Foreign Ministers Committee of the Warsaw Treaty countries. They declared that they were giving their energetic support to the Soviet-American meeting and the forthcoming signing of the treaty. They expressed their full consent with Leonid Brezhnev's statement that the treaty would certainly be the major act ever undertaken for the sake of curbing the arms race. As for the new Soviet-American meeting, Leonid Brezhnev added, it will help promote general improvement in relations between the two countries and in the entire international climate.

The SALT II treaty has also been welcomed throughout Western Europe, both in neutral states and in NATO member countries. At the recent session of the NATO Council at The Hague, the foreign ministers gave a positive assessment to it and so did the leaders of the new British Cabinet, Mrs Thatcher and Lord Carrington.

In this context, can one speak about a new political climate in Europe, created as a result of this consensus of opinion? I think I would not be sincere enough if I wouldn't bring certain negative factors into the picture.

One is the opinion spread in the United States and some other Western countries, Britain among others, hailing the SALT II treaty but without the policy of the [military] relaxation. But it is most unlikely that strategic weapons can ever be limited in the conditions of whipped-up political and other tensions. That limitation, I presume, will be plain fictitious. Coming close to it is the theory now being circulated in London that the two processes can go parallel. It was advocated in most frank terms by the last Sunday issue of the OBSERVER. The paper calls on the government and its NATO allies to step up arms buildup and negotiate at one and the same time their control with the Soviet Union and other East European socialist countries.

It is most obvious, however, that the plans to develop the mobile MX missile in the United States or deploy the intermediate-range missiles in Europe are inconsistent with the ideas of the military relaxation and promotion of international trust incorporated in the political basis of the treaty. The attempt at advocating such plans and implementing them serves to promote only one thing.

There are still quite a few opponents to the policy of relaxation and peaceful cooperation between nations. They will lose no time in trying to hamper the relaxation process.

GENEVA DISARMAMENT MEETING DISCUSSES VIENNA SUMMIT

LD192156 Moscow TASS in English 2140 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

["At Disarmament Committee: High Appreciation of Vienna Meeting"--TASS headline]

[Text] Geneva, June 19, TASS--TASS correspondents Vladimir Antonov and Georgiy Dragunov report: The meeting of the Disarmament Committee, which was held today, was fully devoted to the results of the Vienna meeting between General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev and President of the United States Jimmy Carter.

The delegates, who took the floor, greeted the SALT II treaty signed in Vienna and other Soviet-American documents. They emphasized the great significance of that event for improving the international political climate. The treaty which was concluded is a major contribution to ensuring security, to strengthening international detente. It creates favourable prerequisites for subsequent effective steps towards ending the expensive and dangerous arms race, limitation and final prohibition of the production of weapons of mass destruction. Many delegations expressed the opinion that the results of the Vienna meeting will lend a fresh impetus to the negotiations on disarmament, including at the Disarmament Committee.

The committee members welcomed a certain progress that was achieved at the negotiations between the USSR, the United States and Great Britain with a view to elaborate a treaty on full and universal prohibition of nuclear weapon tests.

The attention of the committee members was drawn to the attainment of an accord between the USSR and the United States on the main elements of the treaty on prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of radiological weapons. An agreed upon joint proposal will be submitted to the Disarmament Committee this year.

Director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency George Seignious spoke at the meeting. He pointed out that SALT II treaty signed in Vienna is a thoroughly elaborated and balanced document.

The treaty, he said, lessens the threat to the United States, strengthens its security and security of its allies. The treaty creates new channels for attaining mutual understanding in the future. The signing of the SALT II treaty, stressed George Seignious, promotes stability in a broad sense, demonstrating the will and possibilities of the United States and the USSR to conduct negotiations on reduction of the competition in the military sphere. He pointed out that the conclusion of SALT II treaty reaffirmed that there are possibilities of drawing up agreements which meet the interests of security or both countries.

The USSR's representative Viktor Israelyan has emphasized that the main result of the Vienna meeting is conclusion of the SALT II treaty. Certainly the treaty does not put an end to the arms race, but it lays quantitative and qualitative restrictions on the means of delivery of the most dangerous nuclear weapons. The hope is that the favourable climate created by the successful completion of the Soviet-American meeting will promote an active advance forward in the solution of important questions of limitation of the arms race and of disarmament, the questions facing the committee.

The Disarmament Committee, said the Soviet representative, should actively promote--through elaboration of relevant measures--restriction and elimination of armaments. Attainment of such results would be a concrete answer to the well-justified expectations, which arouse in the world in connection with the historical Vienna meeting and its results. Representatives of Britain, Poland and the FRG also spoke at the meeting.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ON CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF ARMS RACE

ID181025 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Jun 79 pp 2, 3 LD

[Doctor of Juridical Sciences G. Shakhnazarov article: "The Arms Race Is a Danger to the Peoples"]

[Text] One of the main law-governed features of our time is the steady change in the correlation of world forces to the advantage of socialism and the detriment of capitalism. Obviously, this law-governed process, like any other, does not operate straightforwardly, much less uniformly. Frequently there are periods when, for various reasons, the forces of socialism and peace in some countries must, to use military language, fight heavy defensive battles. But on the whole, in a worldwide-historical context, the law-governed process of switching to a new system is steadily gaining ground. "We are moving toward an era," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev noted, "when socialism, in some specific, historically-conditioned form, will become the predominant social system in the world, bringing peace, freedom, equality and prosperity to all working mankind."

The central problem of modern times--war and peace--is also connected with this. The correlation of forces which has now taken shape makes it possible to avert a new world war and is assisting the process of relaxation of international tension. But these opportunities are being translated into reality solely as a result of the determined and consistent struggle against the persistent military threat. The USSR and other socialist countries consider it their duty to strengthen their defense capability and at the same time to wage a persistent struggle to consolidate peaceful coexistence, to deepen the relaxation of tension and for disarmament.

I.

It has been calculated that from 3,600 B.C. to the present there have been only 294 years without war. Some 3.6 billion people have been killed in wars throughout history.

There is an enormous amount of literature castigating war and condemning militarism. There are also more than enough projects of every kind for eradicating military dangers. Before our time this problem remained unsolved, although now it is not regarded as insoluble, as it was in the past.

But what are the signs which must be observed when judging the scale and nature of the military threat?

First, there is the accumulation of an incredible amount of weaponry in the world. In 1976 the U.S. defense information center [as published] calculated that the nuclear potential of the United States alone stood at 8,000 megatons; that is 616,395 times more powerful than the bomb which exploded at Hiroshima. That is not counting the explosive capacity of "conventional" arms, from handgrenades to electronically controlled rocket-assisted shells.

Second, there is the constant increase in military expenditure, as a result of which the arms spiral has been steadily creeping up in recent decades. According to Western sources, in 1978 \$30 million was spent hourly on military projects throughout the world, total expenditure reaching \$340 billion--one-third more than at the beginning of the sixties (adjusting for inflation). This year the military budget of the United States alone is \$130 billion.

Third, there is the expansion of the zones crammed with weapons. From 1958 through 1973 the Iranian military budget increased 9 times, that of South Africa 5 times and that of Thailand 4 times. There was, and is, a constant stream of U.S. arms to Israel--a stream which has become particularly active and which has also flowed to Egypt since the conclusion of the Camp David separate deal. In the face of the growing danger, Syria, Iraq and other Arab countries have been forced to strengthen their defenses.

According to specialists, the United States is responsible for more than half the arms trade, which in 1977 amounted to \$22 billion. According to UN data, 40 percent of the aid received by developing countries from various funds is spent on military projects. In this way there is an additional siphoning of funds from the taxpayers' pockets to the safes of manufacturing corporations and arms traders.

Fourth, there is the danger of the spread of nuclear arms, whose manufacture is becoming less complex. According to specialists, by the end of 1980 there will be a concentration of about 250 tons of plutonium in the world and by 1984 the number of countries capable of manufacturing nuclear arms will have almost doubled. The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons has undoubtedly played an important positive role, but it does not provide full guarantees.

Fifth, there is the concentration of an enormous intellectual potential on the elaboration of new kinds of mass destruction weapons. At the present time, according to the calculations of Western specialists, more than 400,000 scientists, engineers and technicians are engaged on this work. Every 7 years, on average, their activity leads to the creation of a new weapons system.

It has become known that for decades the imperialist states have been conducting experiments on improving various kinds of chemical and biological weapons, including the cultivation of bacteria capable of causing mass epidemics. And this is despite agreements banning bacteriological weapons.

The facts cited are adequate to form an idea of the scale of the phenomenon called the arms race. As a result of it, enormous financial and human resources are thrown "to the winds." The solution of vital problems facing the peoples at the end of the 20th century is substantially hindered and the threat of a world conflagration is growing.

The Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries resolutely oppose such a policy and the danger of war, for almost 3.5 decades mankind has not experienced world war thanks primarily to their efforts.

II

For politically unsophisticated observers there is no fundamental significance in knowing who is the initiator of the arms race, who is "leading" at individual stages of the race. This is precisely the psychological effect on which many bourgeois politicians are trying to gamble, placing equal responsibility for this race on the capitalist and socialist countries, NATO and the Warsaw Pact. Moreover, the least scrupulous of these politicians even contrive to prove that it is allegedly the Soviet Union which is the culprit in the "rush toward the abyss." You might think it was not the United States but the USSR which dropped the atom bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Although it is not usually possible to date turning points in history precisely, the U.S. political scientist (Ch. M1) writes, one of them may be established with extraordinary precision: "The 20th century nuclear arms race began in the Cecilianh of Palace at 1930 hrs on 24 July 1945." Why precisely in Potsdam, at the meeting of the leaders of the Three Powers? The answer is simple: Because it was precisely here that Truman told Stalin of the existence of a new weapon of unusual destructive force.

Here the U.S. President was by no means guided by a debt of loyalty to his allies, for at the Potsdam Conference he gave no details of the new weapon. Quite the opposite, his aim was to intimidate the Soviet Union. But it could have only one effect--to prompt the Soviet leadership to take countermeasures to insure the country's safety and above all to accelerate the creation of an atom bomb and the means for its delivery to strategic targets.

As (R. Birns), one of the active participants in the events of time, attests, the actual use of the atom bomb against Japan had two purposes: "First to finish off Japan and second to make the Russians more pliant with regard to Europe." Thus, whether you reckon the start of the arms race from Potsdam or Hiroshima, in either case U.S. imperialism is the culprit.

The world public must know who began the arms race. This is essential for the correct orientation of all political forces which are struggling to halt it. But even more important is the reply to the question: Who is the initiator of this race today? It is impossible to resist an evil without knowing its source. But, as stressed above, the overwhelming majority of Western authors, either through error in accordance with their social mission, place the blame "on both sides." They argue approximately as follows: "Which came first, the chicken or the egg? Who was the first to say 'ah!!'--what does it all matter? What is important is the fact that the United States produced the atom bomb and the USSR rushed to do the same. The USSR detonated a thermonuclear bomb. The United States rushed to catch up with it....just try to discover who is initiating the arms race!"

But it is not really that difficult to discover. It is enough to recall the history of the neutron bomb which, alas, is far from ended. The U.S. administration has announced, almost as a benefactor, that the United States has learned to make a "clean bomb" which only acts by radiation and, like shrapnel, kills people but spares inanimate things. The wave of indignation raised throughout the world and to considerable extent the Soviet Union's warning that it would be forced to take steps in response, have forced the U.S. leadership to retreat temporarily.

But imperialism's entire powerful propaganda arsenal has been set in motion to create the next attack of hysteria around the mythical "Soviet threat." When Washington considered that the atmosphere had become more acceptable, it announced its intention to embark on the production of individual components for the neutron bomb.

Many other pieces of evidence may be cited attesting to the fact that it is precisely imperialism which is the constant leader of the arms race. The most important thing is that the gamble on the creation of superior military strength continues to lie at the basis of the military political strategy of the United States and that of its allies and the most aggressive imperialist circles have not abandoned the idea of a preventive strike against the socialist countries.

H. Baldwin, one of the leading U.S. theorists in the sphere of international relations, has taken on the job of processing the materials of 30 authoritative Western specialists and various departments. Claiming to set forth their common position, he writes about the need to "reorient traditional U.S. military policy toward the offensive" and create a military power capable of "striking more powerful blows against the enemy's territory than any adversary can strike against the U.S." "The history of the next century," this strategist proclaims, "depends primarily on America.... the future belongs to us. We have the responsibility of strength; We must have strength--real and potential military strength--for without it power in the world today has no meaning."

Similar cries have already been heard frequently, in the thirties and forties.

There is no need to prove that he who counts on striking the first blow and has superior strength to do so is the initiator of the arms race. Every new lap of the arms race is the result of the sinister activity of the imperialist military-industrial complex. The Western press frequently admits frankly that here, in addition to everything else, the aim is set of placing an additional burden on the economy of the USSR and the other socialist countries and forcing them to increase their military expenditures, complicating the implementation of large-scale social programs and thus weaken the magnetic influence of socialism.

As Comrade L.I. Brezhnev stresses, "anyone who is familiar with the history of postwar years can easily remember that the arms race was launched on the 'action-counteraction' principle: The West made the challenge, the Soviet Union was obliged to accept the challenge, as has been the case throughout, from the first atom bomb to our day. And the start of each new twist of the arms race has invariably been accompanied by a new wave of cries about the Soviet threat."

III

It is true that mankind is living on mountains of weapons. But the claims of some theoreticians that a vicious circle has been created from which there is no escape and that the peoples have been put by a spontaneous force beyond their control onto a roundabout which nothing can halt, have no bearing on reality.

Sometimes voices are heard saying: Before weighing the chances of halting the arms race it is essential to elicit whether it is even necessary to strive for that goal. The point is that in the West there are many people who consider the present state of affairs as almost the only guarantee of peace in conditions where massive forces are confronting each other in the world. From the viewpoint of those people the arms race, if it is not a boon, then at least it is not an evil either.

"The myth created by the scientists that the arms race leads to war," H. Kissinger stated, "finds no confirmation at all in history. I can recall a war which began as a result of a mobilization program, but I cannot recall a single war which began as a result of an arms race."

This statement is built on a false premise. For it is not a question of an arms race leading to war, but of the fact that through it a war which breaks out for any reason could now become ruinous to life on earth. For, to put it mildly, the consequences of military actions are not identical if, in one case, swords and arrows are used and, in the other, missiles and nuclear bombs are used.

But Kissinger's statement is also incorrect on its merits. The fact that an arms race in the past did not become a *casus belli* does not mean that it is impossible for such a course of events to occur in the future. Moreover, the attempt to find analogies of the arms race in the past is also quite dubious. This process is so unique that it would hardly be possible to equate it with, for instance, the growth in militarism and the arms boom on the eve of World War II.

One of the particular features of the current arms race spurred on by imperialist and reactionary forces is the linked danger of "spontaneous combustion." No kind of accident can be ruled out with the existence of many thousands of nuclear missiles in the world. Thus, it has been calculated that in 30 years 91 such incidents have occurred in the United States. It is precisely in this context that President J. Kennedy warned of the danger of a nuclear war beginning as the result of a tragic mistake. And, moreover, diverse manifestations of ill intent are also possible, apart from accidents. It is well known that in 1978 two adventurers nurtured a plan to steal a "Poseidon" submarine and to fire a nuclear charge at a site on the U.S. Pacific coastline.

In short, despite Kissinger's statements, the danger of the "spontaneous combustion" of nuclear war as a result of the arms race can in no way be discounted. But those who see nothing particularly bad in stockpiling arms but, quite the reverse, regard disarmament as a dangerous idea, have yet another argument. They maintain that the current state of peace is maintained by the approximate parity of military strength, that a decisive condition for it is the threat of mutual destruction or the notorious "balance of terror."

The whole "delicate mechanism" of detente, U.S. Professor L. (Uetten) maintained, depends entirely on equality in U.S. and Soviet strategic weapons, and therefore the arms race will remain a "permanent feature" of the detente process, even though it will be less uncontrolled than before. His British colleague J. Williams expresses himself even more definitely. In his opinion disarmament "would destroy the very basis of detente," which came about as a result of a stable balance of forces. It transpires, moreover, that universal disarmament would even intensify the probability of an outbreak of war, since it would be less dangerous to resort to war. U.S. Senator Howard Baker develops this strange viewpoint by saying that peace constantly depends on military strength, which is necessary in order to minimize the risk of nuclear war.

Thus, attempts are made to create the illusion that the "balance of terror" would serve as the only means to maintain peace, albeit a fragile state of peace. The Soviet side completely rejects that approach. "The Soviet Union," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said, "is resolutely against the 'balance of terror.' We favor the balance of trust."

The notorious "balance of terror" cannot be deemed a permanent condition for peace. First and foremost it is essential to take into account the imperialist circles' unchanged desire to disturb the parity of military strength to their advantage. The decisions of NATO Council sessions and of other organs of this 'block' in 1978 and 1979 can serve as examples of this. [paragraph continues]

They set out extensive programs for building up arms and increasing military expenditure, justifying this with the unsubstantiated assertion that the build-up in strength of the Warsaw Pact "exceeds the requirements of defense."

At the same time once in a while some NATO general mentions the real reasons for the militarist fever--the desire to have superior military strength so as to maintain imperialism's direct or indirect dominance of regions rich in oil and other valuable raw materials, and so as to suppress the peoples' liberation movement.

It is also essential to bear in mind the economic aspect of the matter. Deflecting as it does enormous and also steadily increasing funds from the needs of peaceful development, the arms race leads to the exacerbation of social problems facing individual countries and mankind as a whole. From this viewpoint, to rely on the "balance of terror" as an acceptable method of maintaining peace is equivalent to eating one's own skin in an attempt to ward off starvation. Even if there were no other reasons, this one alone would sooner or later inevitably bring about the collapse of concepts based on the "balance of forces."

Finally, it is essential to take into account the psychological factor, apart from economic, political and technical considerations. As is known, even metal can "suffer fatigue" when subjected to overstress. The constant stress experienced by people in the conditions of the unrestrained arms race and the appearance of new and increasingly total means of mass destruction could lead, and is already leading, to psychological disturbances in some people, and this could have unforeseen consequences for the world situation.

U.S. Professor H. Nash noted that in some sense the "balance of terror" carries the seeds of its own destruction. This concept is based on fear, and the use of fear acts in such a destabilizing way that it upsets any balance. F. Akel supports such reassuring concepts as "mutual restraint," "strategic stability" and the "balance of forces," which must be regarded as hypotheses in the search for the best solutions, and not as symbols of faith.

Summing up the aforesaid remarks, it can be stated that the "balance of terror" is not a solution to the problem of peace but merely a palliative for it. It cannot permanently guarantee the peoples' lasting security. If a more reliable and radical method is not used, then the realities of the present international order, and primarily the arms race, could lead to a nuclear world war.

The Soviet Union proceeds on the basis that halting the arms race and averting the threat of world nuclear war is mankind's most urgent and most vital task. Our country, with the fraternal socialist countries, is persistently striving to halt the growing, peace-threatening arms race and to make the transition toward reducing arms stockpiles and toward disarmament. However, the joint efforts of all other states are required in order to achieve these aims.

As is known, the meeting between Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and U.S. President Carter is scheduled to take place this June in Vienna. It is assumed that the Soviet-U.S. Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty--SALT II--will be signed at the meeting.

The work on this agreement has gone on for 7 long years. This fact alone shows the difficulties which still remain on the path of disarmament. On the other hand, however, the same fact attests that real steps here are completely possible. Even now it is clear that the conclusion of SALT II will be an event of important political significance. This is not only because the way will be paved for the next round of Soviet-U.S. talks but also because all other talks now being conducted in the world on questions of moving from political detente to military detente will receive new impetus. Halting the arms race is the commanding call of the time. And time does not wait!

LD151220 Moscow TASS in English 1174 GMT 15 Jun 79 LD

LD161020 Moscow TASS in English 0845 GMT 16 Jun 79 LD

Oleg Troyanovskiy, USSR permanent representative to the United Nations Organization, stressed that the Soviet Union has always declared for the resolution of the Cyprus issue on the basis of the principles of independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus with strict respect for its policy of nonalignment.

Lack of settlement of this problem remaining for many years is a result of the incessant foreign interference in the internal affairs of Cyprus. Acting in violation of the U.N. Charter, definite NATO circles do not abandon attempts at changing the status of Cyprus as a nonaligned state, and at turning the island into a stronghold of the bloc in the Eastern Mediterranean. It is necessary to ensure the withdrawal from the island of all foreign troops and dismantling of the foreign military bases there. The two national communities must be given an opportunity to decide themselves questions pertaining to their state systems, with due regard for the interests of the Greek and Turkish communities and without interference from the outside.

ASIAN BUDDHIST PEACE CONFERENCE OPENS IN ULAANBAATAR

LD161139 Moscow TASS in English 1126 GMT 16 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, June 16, TASS--The fifth general meeting of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace opened here today. Taking part in the conference are some 300 religious leaders from 15 countries, as well as representatives of international organizations. Leaders of the Buddhist movement from Bhutan and Kampuchea participate in the conference for the first time. Special significance to this forum is imparted by the participation of the Dalai Lama, the supreme head of the Buddhists of Tibet.

The participants in the meeting received with great attention the message of greetings from Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Aleksey Kosygin. The present forum coincided with the tenth anniversary of the forming of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace. The conference will discuss topical questions of further intensification of the activity aimed at the strengthening of security in Asia and throughout the world. President of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace, head of Mongolian Buddhists Hamab-Lama Samaagiyn Gombozhav delivered a report on the conference's activity at the first meeting.

Dalai Lama Arrival

LD161140 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 15 Jun 79 LD

[Text] The leader of the Tibetan Buddhists, the Dalai Lama, has arrived in Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia, where he is to attend the Conference of the organization of Asian Buddhists for Peace. On his way to Mongolia the Dalai Lama stopped over in the Soviet Union. He saw how Buddhists live in this country and attended religious services in a place southeast of Lake Baykal. A delegation of Soviet Buddhists has also come to Ulaanbaatar. It is led by Bandido Hambo Lama Zhambal Dorzhi Gamboyev. The conference opens tomorrow.

According to the general secretary of the organization [name indistinct], there will be delegates from 15 countries and international organizations. Bhutan will be represented for the first time. Among the delegates will also be the only surviving Buddhist lama from Kampuchea, (?Long Thin). The conference is to discuss disarmament, work for peace and cooperation between nations. Particular attention will be paid to the situation in Indochina, in view of China's hostile actions against Vietnam.

Kosygin Greetings

LD160826 Moscow TASS in English 0803 GMT 16 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, June 16, TASS--Aleksey Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, addressed a message of greetings to the participants in the fifth general assembly of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace.

The Soviet Government, the message of greetings points out, is convinced that the principles of peaceful coexistence, ending the arms race, disarmament and mutually beneficial cooperation meet the vital interests of peoples.

The Soviet state has been steadfastly pursuing the peace policy throughout the whole of its history, and considers it to be its sacred duty to support the efforts of all people of good will coming out for the implementation of mankind's peace-loving ideals.

The message stresses that the news of the meeting between General Secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev and President James Carter of the USA in Vienna for signing a new treaty on the limitation of strategic offensive arms, [a] treaty putting up a serious obstacle to the dangerous accumulation of the most destructive types of weapons, has been welcomed with profound satisfaction by all who cherish peace.

Aleksey Kosygin wished success to the conference, which "as it can be hoped, will make its contribution to the noble cause of peace."

AUCCTU DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR GDANSK CONFERENCE

LD140945 Moscow TRUD in Russian 12 Jun 79 p 3 LD

[Unattributed report: "To Participate in Conference"]

[Text] A Soviet trade union delegation headed by AUCCTU Secretary K.Tu. Matskyavichyus left Moscow for Gdansk (Poland) 11 June to participate in the 22d workers conference of the Baltic countries, Norway and Iceland. The delegation includes trade union workers, leading workers and production innovators from Moscow, Leningrad, Vilnyus, Riga, Tallin and Kaliningrad.

The delegation will participate in the plenary sessions of a conference on the theme of "trade unions' struggle for peace, disarmament and social progress", and also in forums which will discuss the questions of educating the peoples in the spirit of peace and friendship, insuring the right to work and the trade unions' responsibility for the future of children and young people.

Conference Resolution

LD181404 Moscow TASS in English 2042 GMT 15 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Warsaw, June 15, TASS--The participants in the workers' conference of the nine Baltic countries, Norway and Iceland support the initiatives aimed at preventing the danger of atomic war, at banning the neutron weapons and putting an end to the arms race, and greet the signing of a treaty on limiting strategic offensive arms between the USSR and the USA, says the resolution which was adopted today in conclusion of the work of the international forum in Gdansk.

The trade-union figures declared for the convocation of an international trade-union conference devoted to socio-economic aspects of disarmament.

The resolution emphasizes the necessity to carry on the struggle to turn the Baltic into a zone of peaceful cooperation between states with different social systems as well as the usefulness of the exchange of views on matters aimed at improving working conditions in the countries of the region and on environmental protection in the Baltic area.

INTERNATIONAL 'MARINE EDUCATION' SEMINAR ENDS IN ODESSA

LD191942 Moscow TASS in English 1552 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Odessa, June 19, TASS--The international seminar "Marine Education", taking part in which were representatives of almost forty developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, completed its work in Odessa today. It was organised by the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organisation of the United Nations jointly with the Ministry of the Merchant Marine of the USSR and the USSR Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. For twelve days the seminar participants studied the methods of training seamen in the Soviet Union, familiarised themselves with the organisation of the work of higher and secondary special educational establishments, visited ports and ships of the Black Sea Steamship Administration, a major Soviet shipping company.

For the developing countries this seminar is of major importance because its main purpose is to render effective assistance to these states in training specialists for the merchant marine, it was stated by William Morrison of Canada, director of the seminar from the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organisation of the United Nations, who commented on the results of the seminar which gave every participant an opportunity not only to get an idea about the achievements of the USSR in the training of marine specialists, but also to glean much useful information for future practical work.

TASS NOTES INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN SPACE RESEARCH

LD190944 Moscow TASS in English 0650 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

["Joint Space Programs"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, June 19, TASS--The Soviet Union has always regarded its achievements in outer space exploration as the property of the entire mankind. It declares for developing international cooperation in outer space exploration and pursues its policy by actively working at the U.N. Committee for the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

In implementing the plans of space research, the USSR expands from year to year the Interkosmos program, in which the countries of the socialist community take part. Representatives of Czechoslovakia, Poland, the GDR and Bulgaria have already worked in orbit together with Soviet cosmonauts. At present under training at the cosmonaut training centre are future cosmonauts of Hungary, Cuba, Mongolia, Romania and Vietnam.

The Soviet Union is also carrying out joint projects for outer space exploration together with the capitalist countries. Nearly 30 experiments have been carried out in outer space jointly with France. President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing of France positively spoke about the USSR's proposal that a French cosmonaut take part in one of the space flights.

Joint work is continuing for outer space exploration by specialists of the USSR and the USA in the field of space biology and medicine. Nearing completion is the first stage of the Soviet-American experiment for the ground simulation of physiological effects of weightlessness at the Institute of Medico-Biological Problems (Moscow). It is to be continued in the United States in July-August. The Academy of Sciences of the USSR and the Indian space Research Organisation (ISRO) have signed the other day an agreement on preparations and launching in 1980-1981 of the third Indian earth satellite.

LD181043 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Jun 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Text] The latest presidential report on the implementation of the provisions of the Final Act of the all-European conference, published in Washington, sets the goal, it says, of providing "an analysis of the most important events linked with the fulfillment of the Helsinki document." This intention would deserve every support on condition, of course, that the analysis was objective. But it is precisely objectivity which is lacking in the report which makes one more attempt to use the high prestige of the Final Act to distort its goals and to mislead the U.S. public.

Seeking the mote in someone else's eye by every means while failing to notice the beam in one's own eye--that is the essence and meaning of the Washington report. All the authors' efforts are aimed at interfering in the socialist countries' internal affairs and depicting lawbreakers and criminals, justly convicted and punished for their crimes against their peoples, as fighters for human rights. At the same time the report displays striking modesty, not to say hypocrisy, in dealing with the facts of the American way of life. On this score all it says is that "more must be done in the United States than has been done so far to defend the rights of minorities."

But this glibly uttered phrase cannot conceal the conclusion reached in a recent study by the U.S. National Urban League to the effect that over the past 10 years, that is since the time of the mass slayings of black demonstrators by the U.S. police and National Guard, the position of Negroes has remained virtually unchanged and their lot continues to be despair, poverty and deprivation. Physical reprisals against representatives of non-white America remain a norm of police practice. As Angela Davis has said, the Negroes and other colored people languishing in the U.S. prisons--and last year they numbered 300,000--are political prisoners. The report does not say a word about the fact that if about 30 percent of young Americans are out of work, among young Negroes 52 percent are unemployed. The words of James Steel, chairman of the League of Young Workers for Liberation and one of the leaders of the recent youth march, are a keen comment on the attempts by the report's authors to conceal the truth about life in the United States. He said: "We have told the White House: Do not toy with people's lives. So much indignation has accumulated in the country that there may be an explosion."

A characteristic touch is that the presidential report has coincided, as the Washington POST has written, with the plans elaborated by the U.S. Government to save the butcher Somoza and to interfere directly in Nicaragua's affairs. But the report, which claims to give an objective analysis--but in fact tries to conceal violations of human rights by capitalist America, also has nothing to say about the United States' shameful involvement in the crimes of this henchman of the U.S. monopolies or about Washington's support for other bloody dictatorial regimes throughout the world--from Chile to South Korea.

LD161232 Moscow TASS in English 1204 GMT 16 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, June 16, TASS--"We are indignant at the attempt of some people in U.S. mass information media at poisoning the atmosphere between our countries," said Antonina Doronenkova, representative of the trade union organization of TASS Photokhronika (photo service).

As A. Doronenkova said, the staff members of Photokhronika had refused to transmit through the TASS channels yesterday a photograph, which came from the Moscow Bureau of the Associated Press, of Antonia Agapova, the mother of former Soviet seaman, who violated his country's laws, betrayed his homeland and is now engaged in anti-Soviet activity abroad. The photograph also showed a poster with a disdainful signature against the U.S. President.

The Associated Press usually uses on a mutual basis the TASS channels for transmitting its own picture services.

"Our colleagues evaluated the AP's request for the transmission of Agapova's photograph on the day of opening of the summit meeting in Vienna as a deliberate provocation," Antonina Doronenkova said. "It must be noted, for that matter, that we expected such a trick. The point is that it was also in the past that each time, when some positive changes became manifest in Soviet-American relations, there were people ready to play a nasty trick including by means of propagating tendentious photographs, in their striving to prevent our rapprochement."

"Members of our trade union," Antonina Doronenkova added, "protect their rights, and they do not wish that their work be used for sordid aims." The staff members of Photokhronika consider that their stand accords with the provisions of the Final Act of the all-European conference in Helsinki, including commitment by the participants in the conference to "respect each others' right freely to choose and develop its political, social, economic and cultural system as well as its right to determine its laws and regulations."

KOSYGIN, U.S. FEDERAL RESERVE OFFICIAL HOLD KREMLIN TALKS

LD191724 Moscow TASS in English 1652 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, June 19, TASS--USSR Premier Aleksey Kosygin received in the Kremlin the Chairman of the USA Federal Reserve System William Miller.

During the talk, which passed in a businesslike atmosphere, they exchanged views on Soviet-American relations and international problems concerning, in particular, the world monetary-financial situation and economic relations between countries with different social systems.

Both sides remarked on the special importance of the Vienna summit between the General Secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev and U.S. President James Carter. They expressed confidence that the results of the meeting will have a positive influence on the development of Soviet-American relations and the deepening of international detente.

Present during the talk was President of the Board of the USSR State Bank Vladimir Alkhimov.

PRC DECISION TO SUPPLY WARPLANES TO EGYPT SCORED

LD191447 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Jun 79 p 3 LD

[Yu. Zaytsev article: "They Are Supporting Separate Deal"]

[Text] As-Sadat has announced the signing of an agreement on "military cooperation" with China. He has expressed thanks to the Chinese leadership for the "understanding" and "assistance" which, the Egyptian press reports, is expressed in deliveries of 60 military aircraft of Chinese manufacture to Egypt. Attention is drawn by the fact that the announcement of Beijing's decision to deliver military aircraft to As-Sadat's regime followed soon after Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, in accordance with the decisions of the Baghdad conference of foreign and economics ministers of the Arab states, had announced the liquidation of the Arab military industry organization with whose assistance the present Egyptian leadership was counting on obtaining a considerable quantity of arms and ammunition for the Egyptian Army. China's position essentially flies in the face of the Arab countries which in their overwhelming majority have condemned the U.S.-Israeli-Egyptian compact which imperialism and Zionism are making out to be something like a political settlement in the Near East.

How do such actions conform with sworn assurances of loyalty to the Arabs? After all, quite recently the heads of a number of Arab states were sent telegrams on behalf of the PRC leadership speaking of China's adherence to a "pro-Arab position" on the Near East question. Following this, PRC Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs He Ying asserted in an interview with the Lebanese newspaper AN-NAHAR that Beijing "supports the struggle of the Palestinian and other Arab peoples for the return of their lands." On verification it emerges that all this is empty words. And the facts attest that China acts on the side of the opponents of the legitimate rights and interests of the Palestinian and other Arab peoples. It forms blocs with those forces which are deadlocking the problem of attaining lasting peace in the Near East, thus subjecting this region to the danger of a new, more destructive explosion.

Actually, it is the materials published by the Chinese press presenting the actions of Cairo and Washington in the Near East in a favorable light which clearly show with whom Beijing sympathizes. Beijing propaganda makes attempts to whitewash As-Sadat in the eyes of public opinion and reiterates As-Sadat's theses to the effect that it is only "the foundation for the establishment of peace in the Near East" that is being laid with the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, and that the Egyptian leadership "will continue to struggle for an overall settlement of the Near East problem." The Chinese side has also frequently voiced approval of the Egyptian president's actions during meetings between official representatives of the two states. In turn Cairo is unstinting in statements both by official spokesmen and by the press to the effect that China acts on As-Sadat's side. The largest utterance on this score was made by Egyptian Agriculture Minister Da'ud who stated, on returning from a trip to China, that the Beijing leaders wholly and fully support the Egyptian president's foreign policy course.

Beijing's decision to send Egypt a consignment of military aircraft is a qualitatively new step in the Chinese leadership's Near East policy attesting to the fact that China is seeking ways of involving itself in the implementation of U.S.-Israeli-Egyptian plans in the Near East. It is no accident that a U.S. State Department spokesman has said that in principle Egypt may ask Washington about U.S. financing of the purchase of these aircraft. The Saudi newspaper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, quoting Western sources of information, notes that the United States played the main part in preparing the agreement on deliveries of Chinese aircraft to Egypt. The newspaper stresses that the Egyptian-Chinese deal does not have substantial military significance but is mainly designed to show that Beijing supports the Egyptian-Israeli deal. The line toward assisting the separate deal runs counter to the interests of the Arab peoples and contradicts the cause of the attainment of just and lasting peace in the Near East.

III. 20 Jun 79

U S S R I N T E R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S
SOUTH ASIA

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AFGHANISTAN'S TARAKI MEETS WITH SOVIET DELEGATION

LD190937 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Jun 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[TASS correspondent report from "The World Today" feature compiled by A. Maksimov:
"For Common Benefit"]

[Text] A delegation from the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace headed by M.A. Prokofyev, USSR minister of education, which is in the Afghan capital has been received by N.M. Taraki, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee and chairman of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Revolutionary Council, a TASS correspondent reports from Kabul.

N.M. Taraki assessed highly the Soviet Union's stand in the international arena and its efforts aimed at preserving peace throughout the world. He noted the friendly nature of relations between the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, stressing that these relations serve the interests of the peoples of both countries, the interests of peace in the region. The Soviet delegation was also received by H. Amin, prime minister and foreign minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

TARAKI SPEECH TO TRIBAL ELDERS REPORTED

LD192350 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1643 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Kabul--N.M. Taraki, secretary general of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee and chairman of the Revolutionary Council, addressing tribal elders and representatives of the population of Kandahar and Badghis provinces, emphasized the great significance of the April revolution which transferred state power to the hands of the working people. At present, he said, the exploiting classes are being liquidated in Afghanistan, and the country is pursuing the path of building a new society in which there will be no poverty, illiteracy, or want of culture, and in which the people will be able to work for the benefit of their homeland in peaceful conditions.

Speaking on the tasks facing the Afghan people, N.M. Taraki noted that the first 5-year plan for economic and social development has begun to be successfully implemented in Afghanistan. An agrarian reform which envisages free allocation of land to peasants and other measures in the interests of the people are being carried out.

Our enemies are trying in vain to thwart the realization of the program for the peaceful development of the country. The Afghan people, stressed the secretary general of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, will advance along the path it has chosen and no false accusations or acts of armed intervention will be able to undo the gains of the April revolution.

AFGHAN REFUGEE INTERVIEWED UPON RETURN HOME

LD191311 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Jun 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent K. Rashidov dispatch: "Homecoming Evidence of an Afghan Deceived by Reaction"]

[Text] Kabul--On that memorable morning, an unusually hot one for spring, (Gulomali Khodzhi) came back to the threshold of the home he had abandoned a year before.

The devastation could be felt all around--the already ancient hovel had become completely twisted out of shape, and the bare tree trunks, probably parched last summer, were all that remained of the former adornment of the tiny yard--two apple trees and a poplar. Of course, relatives or neighbors, as is the custom, could have cared for all this. But the same picture of neglect reigned in their homes.

Today the most terrible part is in the past for these people--the long wanderings on foreign soil and all the connected misfortunes. But even now, 2 weeks after his return, as he describes his odyssey to me (Gulomali's) voice sometimes begins to quaver with emotion or to grow heated and rasping, filled with anger and indignation.

My interlocutor is a 48-year-old peasant who with his family and relations, 30 people in all, left their village in Musa Qal'eh District, Helmand Province, soon after the April revolution. In general they were poor people, totally dependent on the local rich man. Such people had nothing to lose, but they succumbed to their master's persuasion and he, before "secretly" fleeing the country, warned that the revolution would take their wives and daughters who would become "common property" while orthodox Muslims would be sent to some mines or other.

"We are illiterate, simple people," the peasant said quietly, as though apologizing. "And it was hard not to believe him--our landowner was an educated, rich man. We had obeyed him all our lives. So we ended up with our master in neighboring Pakistan."

I asked (Gulomali) why he had decided to return home. He did not answer immediately, he thought about it and after a brief silence, looking me straight in the face, began to speak slowly.

There is no doubt that this decision had long been coming to maturity in him and his fellow countrymen, since the time the refugees began gradually to realize they had been deceived. From the scraps of Afghan newspapers which came into their hands, from the broadcasts by Kabul radio which they sometimes managed to hear, the people learned of the revolutionary transformations taking place in their country, of how people's power had rid peasants of the burden of debts to usurers and rich men and had actively embarked on the liquidation of illiteracy in the country and the improvement of the working people's living and working conditions. Well, frankly at first they did not believe the reports on the beginning of land reform under which agricultural land confiscated from the landowners was given free to peasants with little or no land.

"But," (Gulomali) recalls, "when we heard on Afghan radio a statement by the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Government speaking very sincerely and warmly about people like us, poor people who were abroad, nothing could hold us back any longer."

The government statement mentioned by (Gulomali) was indeed a manifestation of humaneness and justice by the people's power. It stated that all those who had been deceived and had left Afghanistan but now wanted to return would not only not be subjected to any persecution, as counterrevolutionary propaganda alleged, but would encounter every aid and assistance in their motherland.

And so it was. The people who have returned to their cities and villages describe emotionally the joyful meetings with their relatives and the warm participation of the authorities and the public in resolving their further destiny.

"The changes which we saw in our motherland," (Gulomali) said, "are admirable."

With special emotion, as though definitively confirming what he had said, he began to enumerate what he had seen, counting off on his fingers. The sinister figure of the usurer who used to suck the peasants' blood has disappeared forever; the land which used to belong to a small handful of feudalists is being transferred to the hands of those who work on it, bride-money has been abolished by law, which means an opportunity to have a family for thousands of poor people who could not formerly pay the price of a bride. One special change mentioned with tremendous satisfaction by those who have returned home is the intention of people's power to abolish illiteracy within the next few years. "Even old men are studying on courses now." (Gulomali) smiled.

"You cannot shut off the moon with the flap of your robe," the oriental proverb states. The essence of the changes in Afghanistan can no longer be kept quiet or hidden from those Afghan citizens who have been abroad. Affecting the most urgent and painful aspects of the socioeconomic life of Afghan society, these changes naturally reveal and aggravate the antagonism between the working people, in whose interests they are being implemented, and those who are losing forever their political and economic power here. Scorning nothing, the latter are trying in a fit of frantic spite to halt the Afghan people's advance to a new life in which, in accordance with the program of the ruling people's democratic party of Afghanistan, there will be no place for man's exploitation of man.

Attempts to organize acts of armed and ideological subversion supported by the forces of international reaction are now being made by all counterrevolutionary emigres made up of feudal-aristocratic and bourgeois elements and the reactionary clergy. Making bandit attacks from Pakistani territory, they are killing peaceful inhabitants, burning their homes and dealing brutally with representatives of the authorities and activists of the people's democratic party of Afghanistan and popular women's and youth organizations. All this is hypocritically made out to be a "holy war."

"We curse these false liberators," (Gulomali) says with a darkening face. "Over there, abroad, when they enlist our fellow-countrymen in their ranks they slander the people's system and assert that back home the mosques are being burned and people are being deprived of their faith."

Indignation and angry condemnation can be heard in the words of other Afghans who have returned from abroad. After they refused to take part in the plot against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan attempts were made to blackmail them, they were threatened, and every obstacle was placed in the way of their return home.

Those who have returned have just one opinion of those who have remained on the other side in the bands of terrorists and saboteurs--they are sworn enemies of Democratic Afghanistan, and a fierce struggle lies ahead against them as it does with the whole of Afghan counterrevolution inspired by imperialist and reactionary circles, and the people with whom I talked are absolutely convinced that the generous aid counterrevolution is receiving from its foreign patrons in the form of weapons, money and "consultations" on matters of subversion from experts from various intelligence services, and their constant incitement--it is only all this which is enabling it to carry out its shameless attacks against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The newspaper (DA SAUR INKILAB) reports that armed Pakistani detachments are invading Afghan territory at various points in the border regions. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan border troops are resolutely halting these aggressive actions.

...The Pushtu language has a proverb which says: "It is easy to talk of war, it is bitter to experience it." The Afghan people do not want military disputes and hostility. They are firmly and consistently pursuing a policy of peace in their region and doing everything possible to preserve it, constantly stating their desire not to create tension in relations with adjoining states. At the same time, as the participants in the meetings and demonstrations involving many thousands of people taking place in the country are stating, the Afghan people severely warn those who love adventures and all sorts of provocations that they will not remain indifferent to actions threatening the sovereignty, freedom and independence of their motherland.

COUNTERREVOLUTION IN AFGHANISTAN REVIEWED

LD191403 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 24, 8 Jun 79 pp 12-13 LD

[D. Volskiy article: "With Sights on the Afghan Revolution"]

[Text] Life in this Asian kingdom seemed to proceed calmly, the bazaars were habitually noisy, and the muezzins called the faithful to prayer, it is true that the peasants were poverty-stricken and few children hurried to school in the mornings. But is it so important to know how to read and write, if their fathers and grandfathers could not? On the other hand they bore firmly in mind their duties, which had been established over the centuries: to work for the landowners, whose land was sacrosanct, to maintain loyalty to the tribal leaders and to derive wisdom from the local mullah. Those who forgot these precepts had a hard time.

Of course, the need for modernization was eventually recognized in Afghanistan, but on two interrelated conditions. It must not affect the foundations of the social structures and must be carried out in line with proven Western models, roughly like the shah was doing in neighboring Iran, only more cautiously. The Daud regime, which replaced the Afghan monarchy in 1973, tried to "modernize" the archaic system while leaving its essence unchanged. And suddenly everything collapsed in April last year. The People's Democratic Party came to power. The April revolution struck a decisive blow against feudalism in Afghanistan and also cut the ground from under the feet of those who wished to direct the country's development along the capitalist path.

As progressive transformations were implemented, resistance grew among the former ruling classes. All in all, this is not surprising, the landowners owned half of all the cultivated land, and of course they had no reason to welcome the transformations--particularly the agrarian reform--being implemented by the revolutionary authorities. Former important officials and rich merchants also felt uncomfortable. There is nothing new in the fact that exploiter classes being overthrown stubbornly defend their privileges, particularly when they can make use of the prejudices which they themselves implanted in many generations of peasants, whose loyalty to the feudal lords and fear of them were fostered not only with homilies but also with lashes.

All this is certainly no invention of Afghan counterrevolutionaries. It is enough to recall the 18th century, when French nobles staged a reactionary rebellion, in which they also endeavored to involve the peasant masses. It went down in history under the name of the Vendee, which was the name of the province where it broke out. Now those who wish to kindle an Afghan Vendee are playing on the religious feelings of believing Muslims. They are trying to portray the matter as though the new power has no roots in the national mentality or the country's history and is therefore persecuting Islam, so they say.

But without external support the counterrevolution would undoubtedly peter out, and peace would be restored in Afghanistan far more quickly.

The highest representatives of Afghanistan's Muslim clergy have repeatedly declared most definitely that they see no infringement of religion. For their part the leaders of the revolution invariably emphasize their respect for the values of Islam. They resolutely deny that the country is witnessing "a struggle between Muslims and apostates." "The majority of our people are Muslims," Prime Minister H. Amin said, at a press conference at the end of May. "For the first time in the country's history they can freely perform religious rites. However, we do not want to allow counter-revolutionary elements to use Islam against our revolution. The policy of the state is to implement revolutionary transformations in the country while respecting Islam."

Here even enemies of the new Afghanistan can find no opportunity to accuse its leaders of attempts to impose their own political and ideological concepts on other states, particularly neighboring states. But it is in these states that statements of a directly opposite nature can be heard: to the effect that the "Islamic liberation movement" must also be extended to Afghanistan, as one extremist Iranian grouping maintains, for example; and the matter is by no means always restricted to verbal support for Afghan counterrevolution. Thus, it is quite widely known that gangs have been formed on Pakistani territory of landowners who fled there, and of peasants whom they had deceived. Neither is it a secret that these gangs, in full accordance with Basmak [anti-Soviet resistance movement in Soviet Central Asia in 1918-1924] traditions, spare neither children nor women. After perpetrating another massacre, they escape over the border.

In one of his recent statements N.M. Taraki, chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, pointed out, "Reactionary Pakistani circles are making a big mistake by supporting counterrevolutionaries and giving them refuge on Pakistani territory...We again urge Pakistan to reconsider a policy which is complicating the life of the Afghan people."

The question arises: Who, in that case, is to blame for the fact that tension had increased in the Middle East? The Afghan revolution is least of all to blame, for it is historically natural. But the attempts to crush this popular revolution are undoubtedly a factor that is extremely dangerous to peace and tranquility in the very extensive Middle East Region. Dangerous not least from the viewpoint of the interests of those political, religious and military circles in countries neighboring on Afghanistan which, for one reason or another, are being dragged into intrigues directed against it.

There are many reports attesting that imperialism's secret services are involved in anti-Afghan activities. The fueling of tension in relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan also opens up opportunities for more direct interference in the affairs of this region by the very imperialist forces which have suffered a chain of defeats here. This is by no means an abstract possibility. The American press does not consider it necessary to conceal the plans to set up a Pentagon "special force" earmarked for operations in the Middle East. But now reports have appeared that the heirs to the British colonialists are also thinking of restoring their "presence east of Suez" in some form. For they have sufficient experience, particularly in the field of embroiling the different nationalities and religious and political forces in this vast region.

And it would be naive to think that the powerful transnational corporations that have long been active there will reconcile themselves so simply to the loss of their positions. The sentiments of their bosses are obvious. It was not for nothing that the New York TIMES, the favorite adviser and interlocutor of neocolonialist businessmen, recently was not ashamed to gratify the vengeful feeling of its readers with phantasmagoria on the subject of "the rapidly growing list of ayatollahs and mullahs" in Iran who, it says, "will be overtaken by the hand of punishment."

But it will be necessary to wait some 2 years, according to the newspaper, to carry out such scarcely veiled threats. This is evidently conceived as the next act of the drama which Western political producers are dreaming of staging in the Middle East. But for the time being they prefer to use masks--the masks of none other than the protectors of Islam from the "red danger" supposedly stemming from Afghanistan above all. Transparent disguise!

Equally transparent are the calculations of the Beijing leaders, who have sent their instructors to train Afghan rebels in Pakistan and who also sent an official military delegation there in May. In the opinion of foreign observers, Beijing is also pushing this country toward open armed conflict with Kabul, seeking to create a hotbed of war at the very center of Asia in order, among other things to put additional pressure on India too.

In short, the outlines of a multistage scheme directed far from only against the Afghan revolution but also against all the peoples of the Middle East and South Asia are already visible. Coordinating their actions, Western neocolonialists and Beijing expansionists are reckoning on embroiling various Asian countries with each other and dealing one by one with those political forces which they consider their enemies. The Afghan people are just the first of the intended victims. This is why solidarity with them on the part of their friends, and the Soviet Union above all, contrary to the insinuations of provocateurs, serves precisely the cause of peace in Asia. PRAVDA wrote 1 June: "Violations of the sovereignty of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, incursions into its territory by armed gangs from Pakistan and attempts to create a crisis situation in this region cannot leave the Soviet Union indifferent either. Things are moving toward a conflict in our immediate vicinity. It is a case of actual aggression against a state with which the USSR has a common border.

...There is no denying that the young Afghan revolution is now passing through a difficult time. But even under the present difficult conditions reports of the opening of new schools and hospitals, the creation of agricultural cooperatives and the elaboration of economic projects for the future are coming out of Kabul every day. It is understandable that it is particularly difficult to change people's mentality, to eradicate inveterate prejudices and to prompt them to be aware of their real interests. But in this, too, objective observers are noting definite progress.

...Taking all the circumstances into account, a TIMES OF INDIA correspondent reported at the end of May, "you reach the conclusion that time is on the side of Taraki and his revolutionary regime...There are essentially no grounds for supposing that the people's regime is holding on to power thanks to the Soviet Union. Actual reality attests to the opposite: The people's regime is in power by right.

Yes, both time and right are on the side of the Afghan revolution. But is it not this that is prompting its enemies to step up their dangerous intrigues?

PROGRESS OF SECOND INDIAN SATELLITE REPORTED

LD191022 Moscow TASS in English 0803 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Delhi, June 19, TASS--The second Indian satellite, Bhaskara, launched by a Soviet carrier rocket on June 7th, has completed over 170 revolutions around the earth and continues functioning smoothly. This was announced at a press conference in Bangalore by Professor Rao, the director of the Space Research Centre of India. He added that valuable scientific information and photos were being received at surface stations from the spacecraft.

Yakovlev Remarks

["'The Problem of the Refugees'--Facts Against Lies"--TASS headline]

However, Beijing stubbornly refuses to listen to these appeals.

The incitement of the Huaqiao accompanied by this anti-Vietnamese propaganda campaign continues and it is noteworthy that those circles in China and the West, who today are shedding crocodile tears about the fate of "refugees" from Vietnam, somehow not so long ago did not express any sympathy with regard to the tens of thousands of people who, to save themselves from U.S. bombing in Vietnam, were forced to leave both their homes and their country.

Nor did these circles "notice" the mass Pol Pot genocide in Kampuchea--which resulted in a large number of Kampucheans leaving their homeland in an attempt to find refuge abroad, thereby condemning themselves to deprivation and suffering.

The current anti-Vietnamese slander campaign--and the facts completely confirm this--is aimed at a quite definite goal: to (?undermine) peaceful construction in the SRV, drive a wedge between Vietnam and the countries of Southeast Asia and blacken the policy of the SRV. But all these attempts, inspired by Beijing and encouraged by reactionary imperialist propaganda, will not be able to shake the resolution of the Vietnamese people to build and defend their socialist fatherland, and to make a worthy contribution to the strengthening of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and throughout the world.

China To Blame

OW192041 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1000 GMT 19 Jun 79 OW

[(Shurygin) commentary: "The Chief Culprit of the Refugee Tragedy"]

[Excerpts] The problem of refugees fleeing to Southeast Asia did not begin recently. As early as the 1960's, thousands of people fled the countries of Indochina to avoid the disasters of the imperialist aggression there. The reason why the problem has become so acute lately can be traced back to May 1978 when Beijing instigated large numbers of Overseas Chinese to leave Vietnam. Implementing Beijing's policy, Chinese spies told their nationals residing in Vietnam that those who refused to leave would be regarded as traitors. True to their word, they often physically abused those who refused to leave their homes in Vietnam and, as a result of this persecution, thousands of Overseas Chinese in that country left homes where they had lived for generations, fleeing to the Vietnamese-Chinese border areas. Overseas Chinese in South Vietnam went to Southeast Asian countries by sea.

Tossed and battered by choppy seas, the refugees from South Vietnam, hoodwinked by Beijing's propaganda, arrived in Malaysia, Thailand and other ASEAN countries. They became unemployed, lacking means of subsistence, and have thus been a serious burden on the national economies of ASEAN countries, plaguing these nations with grave unemployment and social security problems.

Due to both economic and political reasons, the ASEAN countries do not want to take the risk of settling all the refugees on their land because Beijing's sabotage activities among the Overseas Chinese in these countries and its constant attempt to incite ethnic animosities threaten the national security of the ASEAN countries.

Beijing's role in creating the acute refugee problem has been shown more clearly by the fate of Chinese nationals residing in Kampuchea. The Pol Pot fascist clique murdered large numbers of Overseas Chinese in Kampuchea when the clique dominated that country. The Beijing leadership, which had full control of the Kampuchean situation at that time, abetted the Pol Pot clique in persecution. Thousands of Chinese nationals in Kampuchea had to flee.

Some escaped to Thailand, while many fled to Vietnam. An agreement has now been reached between the Thai Government and the new Kampuchean Government to repatriate the refugees back to Kampuchea.

The problem of Southeast Asian refugees has actually arisen as a result of Beijing's adventurist foreign policy toward the Southeast Asian region. The Japanese journal AKAHATA objectively pointed out that the refugee problem in that region was due to China's move. Beijing's propaganda shifting the blame to Vietnam for the worsening refugee problem is unreasonable. The Chinese leadership is the chief culprit of the refugee tragedy and it has taken no action whatever to alleviate the suffering of the refugees whom Beijing calls "compatriots."

BEIJING'S ROLE IN LAO AFFAIRS CRITICIZED

BK161414 Moscow in Lao to Laos 1430 GMT 14 Jun 79 BK

[Text] The Lao national radio reported recently that in a recent suppression drive against armed commandos in the Phou Bia mountain range in northern Laos, the Lao Army seized some important documents. These documents confirmed the link between the piratic commandos and Beijing. In addition, there were also some letters discussing methods of creating disturbances in Laos.

(?Lao newspapers) have repeatedly charged that China has not abandoned its attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of this sovereign neighboring country, and has continued its slanderous campaigns against the LPRP and the LPOR. Moreover, China has also sent more spies and agents into areas of Laos inhabited by ethnic minorities with a view to sowing discord among the ethnic people.

The most obvious incident illustrating Beijing's hostile attitude toward Laos was the recent announcement by the toppled Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique's radio station in southern China on the formation of the Lao Socialist Party. Beijing directly called for the overthrow of the LPDR. It is very interesting to note that the Western propaganda machine always remains willing to echo any slanderous clamors made by Beijing against Laos to distort the true situation there. They hail Chinese attempts to set up a Meo kingdom in order to consolidate the Meo tribal people living in the border areas of Laos, Vietnam, China and Thailand. In the face of such developments, the Lao people and army always maintain a high vigilance, and continue to build a new life.

BREZHNEV EXCHANGES MESSAGES WITH KING OF TONGA

LD191341 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jun 79 p 2 LD

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has sent King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV of Tonga a telegram conveying his congratulations and good wishes to the people of Tonga.

In his reply telegram the king of Tonga expressed gratitude for the warm message and conveyed to the Soviet people his wishes for happiness and prosperity.

SFRY'S DOLANC ON SIGNIFICANCE OF BREZHNEV-TITO TALKS

LD191529 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Jun 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[TASS report: "In the Interests of Cooperation"]

[Text] Belgrade--The meeting between L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and J. Broz Tito, president of Yugoslavia and president of the LCY, in Moscow is assessed in Yugoslavia as a very important event, S. Dolanc, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, stated at a press conference.

We assess positively the results of this meeting, he said. Both sides expressed interest in the further development of cooperation in all spheres between the two countries and parties. We also view this meeting very positively because it clearly confirmed the foundations on which relations are developing between Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union and the principles of the Belgrade Declaration and Moscow statement. We also believe the Moscow talks to have been successful in that both sides confirmed the fact that, despite the different views existing between the two countries on some problems, there is every opportunity for the development of friendly cooperation.

NOVOYE VREMYA MARKS ANNIVERSARY OF SOVIET-ROMANIAN TIES

LD191429 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 24, 8 June 1979 publishes on page 23, under the headline "USSR-ROMANIA: Landmark in the History of Relations," a 900-word article by V. Ilin marking the 45th anniversary of the "establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the Kingdom of Romania," an event in which "a great role was played by the position of Romania's democratic forces which, under the Communist Party's leadership, struggled persistently for rapprochement with the Soviet Union." Contrasting the position of "Romanian bourgeois landowner circles" on relations with the USSR with that of "the Romanian working people and communists" who "struggled tirelessly for friendship with the Soviet Union and the Soviet people, despite brutal persecution," Ilin outlines political factors which prompted the Romanian Government to establish relations with the USSR. As for the Soviet Union, he writes, "in establishing diplomatic relations with Romania, as with other neighboring countries, it was guided primarily by the interests of preserving world peace."

Ilin concludes with the following passage on Soviet relations with Romania since the war: "The desire for friendship and cooperation between our peoples was implemented after the victory of the people's revolution. The anti-Soviet foreign policy line of the exploiter classes was ended. New relations of comradeship and mutual assistance based on the principles of equality, mutual respect and sovereignty have taken shape between Socialist Romania and the Soviet Union in the postwar years. Our countries have a common great aim--the triumph of the cause of peace and socialism. Relations between the USSR and Romania find expression in the development of political, economic, scientific, technical and cultural links and in cooperation in the international arena on a number of important issues.

"The 1948 alliance treaty was the basis of the cooperation between the Soviet Union and Socialist Romania for more than 20 years. In 1970 it was replaced by a new treaty which enshrined the results which had been achieved and opened up the prospects of the further development of our relations on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism.

"Soviet people value highly the traditional Soviet-Romanian friendship and express the confidence that our multifaceted ties will continue to strengthen."

GROMYKO, PORTUGUESE COUNTERPART EXCHANGE CONGRATULATIONS

LD191301 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Jun 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] On the fifth anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Portugal, USSR Foreign Minister A. A. Gromyko and Portuguese Foreign Minister Joao de Freitas Cruz exchanged telegrams of congratulations.

The telegrams note satisfaction at the results already achieved by the two governments' countries in strengthening and expanding Soviet-Portuguese relations and express the confidence that cooperation between the two countries will expand in the interests of the consolidation of detente and the safeguarding of lasting peace.

VISIT OF PORTUGUESE CP DELEGATION REPORTED

LD192143 Moscow TASS in English 2125 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, June 19, TASS--A delegation of the Portuguese Communist Party stayed in the Soviet Union on June 12-19 at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. The delegation studied the CPSU's experience in guiding the activities of the local government bodies. The Portuguese comrades were received and had detailed discussions at the CPSU Central Committee's Organizational-Party Work Department and the International Department, and made a trip to Pskov.

The delegation emphasized that the acquaintance with the experience of the work of the soviets of people's deputies, the organs of genuine people's power, will help the Portuguese communists in their practical activities at municipal councils.

The members of the delegation expressed full support of the efforts of the CPSU and the Soviet state, Leonid Brezhnev personally, in safeguarding durable peace between peoples the concrete manifestation of which is the signing of the USSR-USA treaty on limitation of strategic offensive arms.

FRENCH WARSHIPS ARRIVE IN LENINGRAD ON COURTESY VISIT

LD192030 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1426 GMT 18 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Leningrad, 18 June TASS--French warships have arrived here on a courtesy visit. They moored today at the mouth of the Neva at the harbor's passenger port. A guard of honor of the Soviet Navy was mounted at the pier to meet the guests.

In the Gulf of Finland the naval fortress of Kronshtadt greeted the frigate De Grasse and the destroyer Vauquelin with a salute of nations.

The same day Rear Adm Christian Brac de la Perriere, commander of the Atlantic Squadron of the French Navy, who is at the head of the detachment of vessels, paid visits to officials.

The French seamen will spend 5 days in Leningrad. They will acquaint themselves with its sights and cultural life, meet Soviet sailors and receive residents of the city on their ships.

SYRIA'S KHADDAM DISCUSSES MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

LD190931 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 24, 8 Jun 79 p 6 LD

[Unnamed special correspondent interview in Damascus with Syrian Foreign Minister 'A. Khaddam under the rubric "Interview": "'A. Khaddam: The Arabs Resist the Conspiracy"--date of interview not specified]

[Text] "Relations between Syria and the Soviet Union are firm because they are based on the principles of friendship and mutual respect. These relations are developing steadily and Syria will spare no effort to improve and strengthen them in every direction," 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, told a NOVOYE VREMYA special correspondent in Damascus. At the editorial board's request he set forth his government's viewpoint on the state and development prospects of the situation in the Near East.

Since the Egyptian president's signing of the "peace treaty" with the Zionist aggressor--a document which has been dubbed the "treaty of capitulation" among Arabs--the situation in the Near East region, 'A. Khaddam stressed, has been considerably complicated for a number of reasons.

First, the treaty is aimed at totally undermining the Palestinian cause and at strengthening the Zionist regime. It favors Israel's aggressive policy vis-a-vis the Arab states and creates advantages for that country at the Arabs' expense.

Second, the treaty helps the extension in the region of American influence which is aimed at jeopardizing and ultimately eliminating all the Arabs' gains on the path of national independence and the struggle to implement their aspirations.

Third, the treaty is aimed at disuniting the Arabs and kindling internal conflicts within their ranks. The very fact of Egypt's withdrawal from the Arab-Israeli confrontation aids the American-Zionist plans of this kind.

Fourth, this treaty has undermined the efforts of various international organizations aimed at achieving a just and lasting peace in the Near East...

Such a peace can be based only on the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories and on recognition and implementation of the Palestinian Arab people's inalienable rights. The latter is very important, since the struggle between the Arabs and Israel began not in 1967 but much earlier, when Zionism, with world imperialism's support, deprived the Palestinian people of their homeland.

The violation of the Palestinian Arab people's rights, the attempts to totally undermine the Palestinian cause and the Zionists' continuing occupation of Arab territories and the construction of military settlements there--those are, in 'A. Khaddam's opinion, the mines which today threaten a new explosion in the Near East....

'A. Khaddam categorically rejected the allegations that the Camp David agreements and the Egyptian-Israeli "peace treaty" are steps on the way to true peace.

If that is really the case, he said, why does Israel need tremendous weapons deliveries and why has the United States promised to increase the value of these deliveries to \$5 billion in the next 3 years alone? It is perfectly obvious that it is a question not of the road to peace, but of encouraging aggression. [paragraph continues]

The Egyptian-Israeli treaty and the Camp David agreements are also a violation of all the UN decisions adopted by both the General Assembly and the Security Council. These envisage participation by all interested parties in a settlement. But if we look at the talks and agreements within the Camp David framework, where are all the parties to the conflict? Where are Syria, the PLO and Jordan? Where are the Soviet Union and, finally, the United Nations itself? None of them participated in the Camp David deal which is aimed against the efforts to achieve lasting and just peace in the region....

Rightly assessing the separate deal as a threat to their rights, interests and national aspirations, the Arab countries immediately condemned the Camp David agreements and "peace treaty" and also the U.S. policy in the Near East region. They defined their principled position at the November Baghdad summit conference and subsequently at the conference of foreign ministers and finance ministers held in the same place at the end of March in the wake of the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty.

'A. Khaddam expressed the firm confidence that the Arabs are capable of withstanding the threat which has been created. They have been able to frustrate one of the main intentions of the inspirers of the separate deal, which was to disunite the Arab nation. The success of the Baghdad conference, the precise decisions it adopted regarding political and economic sanctions against As-Sadat's regime and the fact that these decisions are now being specifically implemented inspire optimism....

Syria, 'A. Khaddam continued, believes that the struggle against the Israeli-American-As-Sadat conspiracy must be based on the immutable principles of recognition of the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights and the complete liberation of all the territories occupied by Israel. The successful implementation of a policy based on these principles requires the further rallying of the Arabs and support for them from all forces for peace, progress and national liberation in the international arena. We believe that the Arab nation will foil the enemy schemes and that the cause of a just peace in the Near East will triumph....

At the end of the conversation 'A. Khaddam once again noted the importance of strengthening relations between the Soviet Union and the Arab world as a whole. These relations, he stressed, serve the interests of the common struggle against imperialism and Zionism, and Syria intends to make every effort for their further steady development.

IRAQ, SYRIA AGREE TO BECOME SINGLE STATE

LD191444 Moscow TASS in English 1358 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Baghdad, June 19, TASS--The signing of a political declaration marked the end of the work of the supreme joint political committee set up on the basis of the charter of joint national action of Iraq and Syria. The content of the political declaration will be announced tonight.

The declaration was signed for Iraq by President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr of Iraq; for Syria by President Hafez al-Asad of Syria. After the signing ceremony, Hafez al-Asad left for Damascus.

[Moscow TASS in English at 1808 GMT on 19 June reports: "Iraq and Syria have decided to establish a single state with the single central power, one president, one army and single central ministries. This has been stated at a press conference for journalists here by the Iraqi minister of information, Sa'd Qasim Hammudi. The new state, he said, will be a single political entity, a single subject of international law with the single people's council.]

III. 20 Jun 79

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

TASS ANALYST CRITICIZES MIDDLE EAST 'PEACE CAMP DAVID STYLE'

LD191536 Moscow TASS in English 1210 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

["Contrary to Facts"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, June 19, TASS--TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

Strange assertions, indeed, appeared lately in some organs of the Western press, U.S. [for] one, in the first place. Their authors are stating that after the conclusion of the "peace, Camp David style" which is portrayed nearly as an historic step, the situation in the Middle East, they maintain, has appreciably improved and continues to improve. But how do the matters stand in actual fact?

The situation in the Middle East region today is characterised by at least three main factors each of which by no means is indicative of a stabilisation of the situation. The first of the factors is that Israel, encouraged and lavishly supported from the outside, continues the policy of heightening tension, the policy of expansion, blackmail, and threats with regard to Arab countries. Upon getting a free hand on the Egyptian "front", Tel Aviv with Cairo's favourable silence, stages one provocation after another against Lebanon. Israel openly states that it will never agree to the establishment of a Palestinian state. While talking of an "autonomy" for the residents of the Western Bank of the Jordan and Gaza Sector, it in actual fact is trying to secure Egypt's recognition of "legality" of the occupation of such Arab lands as Golan Heights belonging to Syria, and Arab Jerusalem.

The Arab states' resolute condemnation of the Camp David agreements and the increasing boycott of the As-Sadat regime are another factor which characterises the situation in the Middle East. The Arab states with good reason view those agreements as a disgraceful separate deal which was concluded behind their back and contrary to their vital interests.

And the last but not least factor is that the anti-Arab Camp David agreements are directly connected with the expansionist plans of the USA the aim of which is, by relying on Israel and Egypt, at any price and by any methods right up to a direct military interference, to consolidate its hold on the region and first of all on the Persian Gulf area where one of the world's main oil reservoirs is located. Neither one can fail to mention that at the same time the USA continues stepping up deliveries of arms to Israel and is promising military deliveries to Egypt, thereby introducing yet another destabilising element to the situation in the region.

This is how the matter stands in the Middle East in actual fact. And this very situation, which has nothing in common with genuine peace and is obviously fraught with serious dangers, some people in the West are trying, contrary to facts, to portray in such rosy colours.

It is evident that the conclusion of the Israeli-Egyptian treaty not only failed to calm down the situation in the Middle East but made it still more acute and dangerous. A lasting peace in the region cannot be achieved without an all-embracing settlement of the problems with the participation of all the sides concerned. The basis of such a settlement can only be provided by Israel's full withdrawal from the Arab lands occupied in 1967, the granting of an opportunity to the Palestinians to create a state of their own, and the ensurance of the independence and security of all the countries of the region.

SHCHERBITSKIY CALLS FOR INTENSIFYING ATHEIST PROPAGANDA

AU111100 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 8 Jun 79 p 3 AU

[Report on V.V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, report at the Ukraine's Party aktivs meeting in Kiev 7 June on the tasks of the republic's party organizations to implement the CPSU Central Committee decision on the further improvement of ideological, political and educational work]

[Excerpt] The intensification of the atheist education of the population remains a topical task. The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee and local party committees have taken a number of steps to further improve this work. The training of atheist cadres has improved. New Soviet ceremonies are being increasingly practiced and the material basis necessary for this purpose is strengthening. At the same time, there are instances when Soviet legislation concerning cults is being violated. Various types of fanatics, former Baderovtsy [adherents of Ukrainian nationalist leader Bandera], spongers and criminals have found refuge in some sectarian organizations.

The analysis shows that shortcomings in atheist education primarily occur where people responsible for this sector do not go deep enough into the state of affairs, do not know either the true situation in religious organizations or the changes taking place in the tactics used by churchmen.

Shortcomings incurred in atheist education in Volynskaya Oblast were criticized in the report.

The main thing in the struggle against religious survival is to significantly improve individual work among the believers, to see to it that legislation concerning cults is strictly observed, and to take more pains to introduce new ceremonies.

UKRAINIAN OFFICIAL DISCUSSES EMPLOYMENT FOR GRADUATES

LD182042 Moscow TASS in English 1208 GMT 17 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Kiev, June 17, TASS--About 200 thousand vacancies were reserved this year for secondary school graduates at enterprises and collective economies of the Ukraine. This guarantees to school leavers jobs at their choice. The state has shown care that youths and girls graduating from the secondary school and wishing to work in the national economy should easily get jobs, a TASS correspondent was told by Chairman of the Ukrainian State Committee for Labour Nikolay Panteleyev. The state has also done much to ensure that young people coming to work at enterprises and in collective farms should be already prepared for work. Nearly 80 percent of school graduates underwent training at production complexes and training shops at schools along with matriculation certificates they received certificates attesting to their skills in more than 50 trades. [as received]

Everything has been done at plants and factories, in collectives and state economies of the republic to ensure that young people are surrounded with attention and support from the very first days of their employment. Representatives of the administration, specialists, doctors, psychologists help young people choose specialties they like. Experienced workers help newcomers get adjusted to their jobs.

Benefits ensured by the legislation on labour apply to youth working in production, Nikolay Panteleyev said in conclusion.

They have a right to a shorter working day and a paid monthly leave. During training in the chosen speciality, young workers receive guaranteed payments. They are not allowed to be employed at strenuous or health-hazardous jobs or to work night time.

MEDVEDEV DESCRIBES DISSIDENT ELECTORAL REFORM GROUP

ID191333 Turin LA STAMPA in Italian 14 Jun 79 p 3 LD

[Article by dissident Soviet historian Roy Medvedev: "I Was an Unsuccessful Candidate for the Soviets"]

[Text] It is a long time since the elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet and to other kinds of soviets prompted any interest among the inhabitants of our country. First, the USSR Supreme Soviet has never been an organization with any influence. Usually, it meets only twice a year for 2-3 days to ratify the laws and appointments already previously approved by the CPSU Central Committee. And since in our country there are no parties except the Communist Party, there is never any opposition in the Supreme Soviet.

All the governments' or the CPSU Central Committee's proposals are immediately approved without the slightest objection by the USSR Supreme Soviet. Second, in the elections to the Supreme Soviet, only one candidate, approved by the upper echelons of the party, is ever put forward for each constituency. But even the man in the street now wonders: What kind of elections are they if they are only presenting me with one candidate?

Naturally, this fact is mentioned neither in the Constitution nor in the electoral regulations. Indeed, the electoral law is formulated in such a way as to leave the voters some possibility of choice. Even the electoral ballot-papers contain the following sentence: "Leave on the ballot paper only the name of the candidate for whom you are voting and strike out all the rest." But this is only theory, while in practice they only carry one name.

In recent years, an increasing number of voters have ceased to take part in the elections. A single person votes for his family and neighbors. Certain voters, using the excuse of being away on a journey, have their names struck off the electoral roll, but then fail to vote in any other constituency. There is proof that usually 10 percent of the population does not take part in the elections. However, the press always announces that 99.9 percent of the electorate vote for the communist and non-party candidates bloc.

This year the elections to the Supreme Soviet were scheduled for 4 March. A number of dissidents then had a simple idea. We are struggling against the violation of many civil rights. And yet often we do not try to exercise the rights which the law apparently grants us. So they decided to try and put forward their own independent candidates for the 4 March 1979 elections.

This idea came first to the members of a small organization called SMOD (the initials of the Svobodnoye Mezhpofetsionalnoye Obedineriye Dissidentov--the Free Interprofessional Association of Dissidents), which had until then shunned usual dissident activities. The SMOD members created a small organization, "Elections 1979," and decided to field two candidates for the elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet: Lyudmilla Grigorevna Agapova for the Soviet of Nationalities, in the Moskovskaya Oblast Second Electoral Okrug, and me for the Sverdlovskiy Electoral Okrug of the city of Moscow.

The members of the "Elections 1979" group came to me at the end of January 1979 to put this proposal to me. The fact is that according to the electoral law every candidate must give his written consent before he can be put forward. [paragraph continues]

Though I did not expect in the least to be put forward, I gave my consent. After filling in all the necessary forms, fully in accordance with the electoral law, the members of the group applied to the Sverdlovskiy Rayon Electoral Commission with a request to register their candidate.

At first, the appearance of a group of workers with such a proposal prompted amused reactions among the electoral commission. The chairman of the electoral commission even asked the members of the group whether they knew what country they were living in and whether they would like to come down from the sky into this sinful land. But the documents were in order and they had to be accepted and examined.

After a few days photographer Vladimir Sychev, chairman of the "1979 Group," and Vladimir Baranov, secretary of the group, were summoned by the electoral commission, who returned their documents to them since their organization had not been registered with the gorispolkom or oblispolkom. In the USSR, incidentally, there are many organizations which have not been registered and nothing is said about it in the electoral regulations. They had to turn to the Soviet laws. In Moscow, there was hardly a lawyer who knew how the various organizations should be formed and registered.

Eventually we discovered that this issue is still governed by the special regulation for voluntary societies and union, approved back on 10 July 1932 by the All-Russian Central Executive Committee and the RSFSR Sovnarkom. We read the text of those regulations in Volume XII of the systematized Code of Laws of the Russian Federation and of the deliberations of the Government of the Russian Federation (Moscow, 1969, published by YURIDICHESKAYA LITERATURA, pp 668-675.)

Next, the rules of the "Elections 1979" organization were drawn up fully in accordance with this regulation. Since the Soviet Constitution states that all social organizations must recognize the CPSU's leadership role, it was written into the rules that the "Elections 1979" organization would submit to all the directives of the CPSU congresses regarding the development of Socialist democracy and that it sets as its aim an increase in the voters' activity and political awareness.

The application to register the new organization and all the documents concerning its activity were forwarded to the Sverdlovskiy Rayispolkom. The Rayispolkom again tried for a long time to persuade the representatives of the "Elections 1979" organization to refrain from presenting their documents and to dissolve their group.

But they were determined and the Rayispolkom was forced to accept the documents received and to examine them. At the same time, a complaint was sent to the Central Electoral Commission. While all these formalities were taking place, the deadline for the registration of deputy candidates went by. Thus, only one candidate, the ballerina Bessmertnova, was included on the list for the Sverdlovskiy Rayon Electoral Okrug.

But let us leave the formalities aside, because in elections it is the voter who decides everything. He has every right to enter the voting booth to vote and there to strike out the surname of the official candidate and write in the name of his own candidate. In fact, this is what all 28 members of the "Elections 1979" organization did. They cancelled their names from their own polling stations and went in large numbers to a polling station in the Sverdlovskiy Rayon, where they wrote my name on the ballot papers. A number of voters in the second okrug of Moskovskay Oblast did the same. They struck out the name of the official candidate, chairman of the USSR Supreme Court Smirnov, and wrote in L. Agapova's name,

A number of dissidents, not members of the "1979 Group", did the same. On 4 March from the morning until the evening I received telephone calls from friends and strangers telling me that they had voted for me in the Sverdlovskiy constituency. How many votes did I receive in this way? I do not think there can have been more than 100-200. Of course, I suffered a clear defeat, because you need 100,000 votes to be elected. But nevertheless, this attempt constitutes an interesting and important political experiment that demonstrates once again how undemocratic the system for electing the soviets is in our country.

Although the "1979 Group" has temporarily suspended its activities, it intends to resume them in 1980 for the RSFSR Supreme Soviet elections. The Sverdlovskiy Rayispolkom has, however, examined during one of its meetings the issue of this new organization's registration. The rayispolkom report states that the organization cannot be registered "because it duplicates the work of the electoral commissions."

It is important to note that the initiative of the "1979 Group" mentioned by some Western radio stations was approved in various areas of the USSR. Thus in Sochi, for instance, about 200 veterans of the Patriotic and Civil wars--at present there are veterans' soviets in all Soviet cities--sent a long letter to the local commission and to the Central Electoral Commission, asking them to register in the Sochi Electoral Okrug (for the USSR Soviet of the Union) my candidacy and also that of Patriotic and Civil war veteran Murats Murtsabegovich Aduyev for the Krasnodarskiy Electoral Okrug (for the Soviet of Nationalities).

They wrote to me collectively, asking for my written consent. But I did not receive that registered letter or the next one. I only received letters from Sochi after 4 March, that is, after the elections. Similar groups were formed in the Vladimirskaia Oblast and in Lithuania, but to date, we lack any details about their activity.

SOVIET DISSIDENT TU ACTIVIST SENTENCED BY COURT

LD151333 Milan L'UNITA in Italian 13 Jun 79 p 16 LD

[Unattributed report: "Founder of Dissident Trade Union, SMOT, Sentenced in USSR"]

[Text] Geneva--Lev Volokhonskiy, one of the founders of the Soviet dissident trade union (SMOT) has been sentenced to 2 years in a labor camp by a Leningrad court. This was announced by the organization's representative abroad, Viktor Fainberg, who explained that he learned the news from Volokhonskiy's fiancée. The dissident was charged with "disseminating notoriously false and subversive lying statements about the Soviet state and Soviet social order." According to Fainberg, Volokhonskiy denied the charges.

EFFORTS NEEDED TO REDUCE FUEL, ENERGY CONSUMPTION

LD192130 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0905 GMT 17 Jun 79 LD

[Excerpts] The decision by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers on supplying the national economy and the population with fuel, electrical and thermal energy in the autumn and winter 1979-80 is at the focus of attention of all the country's power workers. Here is an interview given to our correspondent by (Viktor Andreyevich Ryabov), chief of the All-Union Soyuznefteorgsintez Industrial Association and member of the Collegium of the USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry. [Begin recording]

[Question] What proportion of the country's fuel and energy is made up of oil?

[Answer] About 45 percent. As you see, the ministry's role in providing the economy with oil is a considerable one. The decision defines our target for processing an additional quantity of oil and producing 3.2 million tons of fuel oil from July to December this year. In order to meet that target, the ministry is adopting measures both to intensify the existing capacities and facilities for the primary processing of oil and also to accelerate the completion and commissioning of new capacities, primarily the technological facilities at the Lisichansk and Komсомolsk oil refineries. The intensification of the existing capacities envisages the fullest possible utilization of the equipment's capabilities, a precise technological performance the extension of the equipment's interservice life and the reduction of the time required for overhaul. For example, the reduction of the time required to overhaul one installation at the Mozyr oil refinery by a mere 2 days will permit over 20,000 tons of fuel oil to be produced. The completion of the new oil refinery at Mozhaysk and of the major oil refining installation at Groznyy, the commissioning of which is scheduled for the fourth quarter of 1979, assumes considerable importance in this respect. Also, in the third quarter of this year, we intend to complete work on building primary oil processing installations at the Lipichansk and Komsomolsk oil refineries. And so we wish to request our colleagues from the USSR Ministry of Construction and the Ministry of Industrial Construction to intensify their work and insure an early completion of these sites.

[Question] (Viktor Andreyevich), the decision by the Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers draws attention to the need for strict supervision over fuel consumption and on saving energy resources. What do you have to say on that?

[Answer] At present, many enterprises of our ministry are coping successfully with their targets for saving energy resources. But the targets set for saving fuel, electric and thermal power have not yet been achieved everywhere. Therefore, we have to take a number of measures to improve the rational utilization of energy resources. The oil refining industry will fulfill the party's and government's targets for insuring the production and supply to the economy and population of fuel oil and gas in close contact with the oilmen, gasmen and railroadmen. And so we would ask the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry to insure regular supplies of oil and gas condensate in accordance with the plan and with the established targets not just for the industry as a whole, but also for each oil refining enterprise individually. We expect great help from the Ministry of Railways in intensifying the dispatch of the oil products produced at the enterprises, and above all at such traditionally difficult systems as those of Bashkiria, Gorkiy, Angara and Omsk. There is no doubt that the collectives of the enterprises of our industry will fulfill the targets defined for them in the decision of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers.

PAPER DISCUSSES RAILROAD IMPROVEMENTS, SHORTCOMINGS

LD200925 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 8 Jun 79 p 1 LD

[Unattributed "Economic Review": "On the Steel Highways"]

[Text] The annual volume of freight shipments on the country's railroad network as a whole now totals 3.5 trillion ton-kilometers. This is almost 50 percent of the freight turnover of all the world's countries combined. Like arteries, the steel highways feed the national economy with everything necessary, insuring the dynamic development of the economy.

Each year hundreds of kilometers of new track are commissioned. They extend to the Tyumen oilfields and to the gas center of Urengoy. The Baykal-Amur railroad which is under construction and which is designed to be the main outlet for the extremely rich natural resources of the newly developed regions has cut through the age-old taiga. The flow of freight on the existing railroads is increasing and railroad workers are multiplying their successes in socialist competition.

The CPSU Central Committee has rated highly the innovatory quest of the transport workers of Moskovskaya, Leningradskaya and Chelyabinskaya oblasts. Thus, a valuable initiative has emerged on the Moscow railroad--competition has been developed there to provide very long and heavy trains. This has yielded excellent results--the average weight of a train has increased by 150 tons compared with January, and this has made it possible to move in May alone about 40,000 extra railroad cars and more than 2 million tons of freight. Calculations show that the innovation will make it possible to transport an extra 25 million tons of freight on the Moscow railroad this year.

The unified railroad team on the South Urals railroad headed by senior dispatcher B. Batalov decided to speed up the movement of trains, to insure unimpeded passage for all freight and to allow empty gondola cars traveling to the Kuzbass to pick up coal to pass on their way 2 hours faster than envisaged by the timetable. The team collective has appealed to all the country's dispatchers: Efficiently take over trains from your neighbors and do everything possible to insure that the trains continue their journeys according to an accelerated timetable. The South Urals railroad dispatchers have challenged teams of colleagues on the Sverdlovsk, Kuybyshev and West Siberian railroad to competition.

An example of the skillful improvement of the transport process, the tireless quest for reserves and the strengthening of collaboration between neighboring teams [Smezhniki] is provided by the railroad workers of Chelyabinskaya Oblast who have insured a significant reduction of car idle time in loading operations and the safekeeping of cars at the oblast's industrial and railroad enterprises.

More than 80 percent of all loading operations take place on sidings at industrial enterprises, construction sites and organizations. That is why it is so important to insure strict order in this sector of work. Experience shows that the creation in the national economy of large intersectorial industrial railroad transportation enterprises is economically advantageous. Moskovskaya Oblast's Elektrostal enterprise and the Vladimir and Leningrad industrial railroad transportation enterprises have achieved great successes in this. Loading and unloading are carried on round the clock there, the level of mechanization of this work is more than 92-95 percent, car idle time has been reduced by 1.5-2 hours compared with the norm and labor productivity has increased 20-25 percent.

Many examples of efficient, coordinated work by the RSFSR's railroad workers could be cited. But it must be said that the rate of increase in freight turnover still does not accord with the 5-year plan indicators. The Ministry of Railways failed to fulfill the targets for last year and the first 3 months of this year in terms of that indicator.

[paragraph continues]

Nor is the situation being rectified in the second 3 months. For instance, in April the average daily traffic was 4,300 cars down on the corresponding period last year. There were failures to meet the targets in loading coal, ores, mineral fertilizers, timber and construction materials. In May the total shortfall was more than 6 million tons.

One of the most important tasks now facing railroad workers is that of insuring ever-increasing fuel shipments and creating the necessary reserve for winter. However, the situation on the fuel conveyor belt is giving rise to concern. The Kemerovo and Krasnoyarsk railroads have the greatest liabilities regarding shipments. The leadership, specialists and all collectives of these main railroads must take urgent measures to rectify the situation.

Alarm cannot fail to be aroused by the fact that qualitative work indicators on many railroads--the Far Eastern, Sverdlovsk, Kuybyshev, Volga and Southeastern railroads, for example--are not only not improving but are even tending to fall. The accumulation of rolling stock is increasing on these mainlines. And yet there is a shortage of rolling stock on a number of other lines. Running speeds and the cars' daily mileage are falling. The nonfulfillment of shipment plans has become a chronic trouble owing to the cars' ever-increasing idle time during loading and unloading operations.

One of the reasons for this situation is incorrect planning of freight shipments by certain ministries and departments. Workers of the material and technical supplies services of the Ministry of Construction of Petroleum and Gas Industry Enterprises make particularly frequent miscalculations. Only after standing idle for a long time, reckoned in weeks and even months, were more than 5,000 cars redirected from the Sverdlovsk Railroad to other areas. So-called repeat transport operations also occur frequently. On the Surgut branch, for example, 160 cars were unloaded and then reloaded a few days later and sent to a different address. Cars are unloaded slowly at enterprises of this ministry. Their average idle time in the sidings totals 16.3 hours against a norm of 4.9 hours. This results in monthly losses of 2,600 cars. With the shortage of diesel fuel at Pyt-Yakh, Yunost Komsomolskaya and Shebekino stations, tankers have been standing idle for more than 1 month, waiting to be unloaded.

Business executives can frequently be heard complaining of a shortage of cars. However, there are enough to insure the freight transport plan. As for the shortage of rolling stock that arises on various sections of the mainlines, it is the result of poor organization of loading and unloading work which gives rise to above-norm idle time for cars. This is precisely why plants, construction sites and agricultural enterprises do not receive millions of tons of freight necessary for the technological process on schedule.

Now that a strained situation has arisen in rail transport, strict observance of the timetable, accelerated running of trains and reduced idle time for cars are the chief condition for a sharp increase in shipments.

Our economy's high rate of development requires that workers in all rail transport services constantly seek additional reserves. It is necessary to insure coordination in the work of railroad stations and industrial enterprises for the timely unloading of cars, the reduction of idle time and all possible elimination of irrational shipments.

This can be achieved only given the constant improvement of the forms and methods of operation of the country's transport shop, the comprehensive use of technical facilities and increased production efficiency on every section, enterprise and railroad. The key to success is the dissemination of the creative initiative of innovators and the broad introduction of the rich experience of leading collectives. Their example must become a model for everyone:

YEAR-ROUND ARCTIC NAVIGATION TO SAVE R71.7 MILLION

LD181311 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 22 Signed to Press 21 May 79 carries on page 24 a 1,700-word V. Vladimirov article entitled "Northern Sea Route in Operation" on the history of Soviet navigation in the Arctic, some stages in the development of Arctic navigation and current work being carried out "in accordance with 25th CPSU Congress decisions" for extending navigation along the northern sea route and in icebound ports "with the ultimate aim of organizing year-round navigation throughout the entire extent of the Arctic basin." The article concentrates particularly on experimental voyages carried out along the line from Murmansk to Dudinka and back again in order to insure year-round freight operations from the Norilsk combine, and concludes by saying:

"Calculations of the efficiency of year-round navigation show that, with the transportation of the volume of freight from the Norilsk combine planned for winter 1980, there will be a saving of R71.7 million in industry by virtue of the reduction in capital investments and operational costs and also of the more rapid turnover of circulating capital. The additional expenditure in maritime transportation will amount to R23.1 million. The aggregate national economic saving is estimated at R48.6 million.

"A good start has been made in opening up year-round freight routes in the western Arctic. However, the organization of year-round navigation in the entire Arctic basin is a complex task. It will be resolved by augmenting the fleet of powerful icebreakers, specialized freighters and navigational and communication facilities capable of operating continuously in a polar winter."

BRIEFS

MAGADAN-IRKUTSK AIR ROUTE--A new air route linking Magadan with Irkutsk has been inaugurated with IL-18 planes making two flights a week. The new route makes it possible for working people in the north to travel to Irkutsk without changing planes in Khabarovsk. The number of flights on local routes in Magadanskaya Oblast has also been increased because of summer vacations: Four additional flights a week have been added on the Magadan-Seymchan route and three additional flights have been added on the Sinigorye-Magadan route. Magadan pilots currently fly 26 direct routes including ones from Magadan to Krasnodar, Simferopol, Novosibirsk, Moscow, Vladivostok, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy, Khabarovsk and Sverdlovsk. [Magadan Domestic Service in Russian 0755 GMT 8 Jun 79 OW]

ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION IN KIRGIZIA--South Kirgizia is becoming a major supplier of electricity to Central Asia. There are two stations now working on the Naryn and a third is being built. Then there are plans for the Tash-Kumyr and Kambaratin power stations. Power stations in Oshskaya Oblast have now produced their first billion kilowatt hour since the beginning of the year. A few years ago, it took a year to produce this much. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 14 Jun 79 LD]

KHABAROVSKIY KRAY RADIO, TV--Khabarovskiy Kray currently has a television and radio station and 35 relay stations in operation. Television viewing is now available to nearly 85 percent people in the kray. [Vladivostok Maritime Service in Russian to the Pacific Far East 0710 GMT 2 Jun 79 OW]

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 19 JUNE

LD200522 [Editorial Report LD] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 19 June. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item:

Early cereals have been cut on thousands of hectares in Krymskaya Oblast. The first grain has arrived at the elevators and grain reception points.

The harvesting of cereals has started in the south of Moldavia. Immediately after threshing, the fields are cleared and sown with corn, which will provide good fodder in the autumn. 10-12 working days have been set aside for the cereal harvest. (0000 GMT)

The first combines have gone into the fields in southern rayons of Chirkentskaya Oblast in Kazakhstan. Grain crops have been sown on 550,000 hectares there. The sunny weather which has set in over recent days has helped the rapid ripening of the grain in the valleys of southern Kirgizia. The threshing of wheat and barley has started in Leninskiy and Lyaylyakskiy rayons of Oshkaya Oblast. Many farms are threshing 50-60 quintals of grain crops per hectare on irrigated areas and 20-25 quintals on dry land. (0100 GMT)

The mass reaping of barley has begun in coastal areas of Dagestanskaya. Many farms obtain 40 quintals of grain crops on irrigated land. The weather conditions are complex. (0500 GMT)

In Krymskaya Oblast the full-fledged harvest of grain crops is in progress. The north of the Oblast experienced prolonged droughts and cold spells. Irrigation will be brought there only when the second stage of the North Krymskaya Canal is completed. The grain crops reportedly are "sparse-growing" and short of stem. A great effort will have to be made to gather in all the straw there is and obtain at least 25 quintals of grain crops per hectare.

EARLY JUNE WEATHER, CROP DEVELOPMENT SUMMARIZED

LD191445 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 14 Jun 79 p 3 LD

[Agrometeorologist S. Malikova report: "The Weather and the Crops"]

[Text] Warm weather persisted throughout the 10-day period [through 10 June] in the western half of the European territory of the USSR and in the lower Volga Region and North Caucasus. The weather became considerably cooler in the eastern half of the USSR's European territory. Cold weather persisted over a large part of the North Western region, the Volga-Vyatka Region and the northeast of the Central Region, in the Urals and the central Volga Region.

There was no substantial rainfall in the southern half of the USSR's European territory or in the Baltic republics, Belorussia or the west of the Central Region. Some 11-25 mm and in places up to 70-90 mm of rain fell in the western Ukraine, in places in the Ukraine's central oblasts, and in Moldavia and Kurskaya Oblast.

Winter wheat reached the milky ripeness stage in southern Moldavia, the southern and a number of central and eastern oblasts of the Ukraine, Krasnodarskiy and Stavropolskiy krais, and the south of Rostovskaya and Volgogradskaya oblasts. [paragraph continues]

Winter crops eared and flowered in the remaining part of the USSR's European territory while stalk growth continued in the more northern regions. The development of winter crops is in advance of the average periods over many years.

Spring grain crops are forming ears south of a line linking Ivov, Kiev, Chernigov and Volgograd. Spring barley has reached the milky ripeness stage in the extreme southern part of the Ukraine, in the southern part of Rostovskaya Oblast and in the North Caucasus. Over the remaining part of the USSR's European territory stalk growth is occurring in barley, wheat and oats.

Leaf formation continued on corn. In southern oblasts of the Ukraine and in Stavropolskiy Kray the 11th leaf was seen to appear on the plants, while in Krasnodarskiy Kray the 13th leaf appeared. This is 10-12 days earlier than usual. The heights of the plants are 50-80 cm.

In the Ukraine, buckwheat has begun to flower while early-planted strains of potatoes are forming sideshoots; in the south, the flower cluster formation stage can be seen. The period of intensive stalk growth of flax has begun in the majority of flax growing regions and its height is 30-50 cm.

The weather became considerably cooler in Tyumenskaya and Omskaya oblasts and in western Kazakhstan. The average air temperature over the 10 days was 3-6 degrees below normal. The weather grew warmer in Novosibirskaya Oblast, Altaskiy Kray and the eastern half of Kazakhstan. The average air temperature here over the 10-day period was close to normal and in places was 2-3 degrees above normal. Rain fell everywhere. In the majority of regions of West Siberia and northern oblasts of Kazakhstan the total rainfall was 10-30 mm and in some places 30-70 mm. There was little rainfall in the southern half of Kazakhstan.

Very warm weather prevailed in Eastern Siberia. Spring grain crops were at the third leaf and tillering stages.

The weather grew warmer in the Central Asian republics. The maximum air temperature was 33-38 degrees. Torrential rain fell in Kirgizia, Tashkentskaya oblasts, in places in Namanganskaya Oblast and also in the Gissar Valley. Rainfall was insignificant over the remainder of Central Asian territory. The eighth true leaf began to develop on cotton plants in southern oblasts of Central Asia.

YEPISHEV NOTES IMPORTANCE OF IDEOLOGY FOR SERVICEMEN

LD151323 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Jun 79 p 2 LD

[Unattributed report: "Ideological Work to the Level of Party Demands"]

[Excerpts] A conference of chiefs of propaganda and agitation departments of political directorates of branches of the armed forces, military okrugs, groups of forces and the fleets, editors of okrug, group and fleet newspapers, and heads of okrug, group and fleet houses of officers has been held at the M.V. Frunze Central House of the Soviet Army.

The conference was opened by Army Gen A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

The following figures participated in the work of the conference: Col Gen G. Sredin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; First Deputy Chiefs of CPSU Central Committee departments V. Drugov and G. Smirnov; Col Gen M. Sobolev, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Col Gen P. Gorchakov, Army Gen S. Vasyagin, Col Gen S. Bobylev and Col Gen Avn I. Moroz, members of the military councils and chiefs of the political directorates of branches of the armed forces; Political Directorate Chiefs Lt Gen V. Bychenko, Lt Gen Ya. Mayorov, Lt Gen S. Chubarov and Maj Gen S. Ostashev; and also leading personnel of military justice organs, ideological workers of border forces and internal forces, of the USSR civil defense and DOSAAF; political department chiefs and deputy chiefs for political matters of USSR Defense Ministry main and central directorates; political department chiefs of military academies; editors of central organs of the military press, heads of social sciences faculties in military academies, and lecturers of the political directorates of branches of the armed forces.

Adm A. Sorokin, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, delivered a report entitled "The CPSU Central Committee Resolution 'On the Further Improvement of Ideological and Political Education Work' and the Tasks in Implementing It."

The conference was addressed by Army Gen A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate. He noted that in recent years the party has substantially enriched the theory and practice of working people's communist education. The comprehensive approach toward resolving ideological tasks is becoming increasingly firmly established in the activity of party organizations in the armed forces under the influence of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and of subsequent Central Committee resolutions, the instructions of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and of his speeches and works. The multifaceted process of educating Soviet soldiers and fostering high moral and combat qualities in them is undergoing further improvement. The CPSU Central Committee resolution of 26 April 1979 is an outstanding new theoretical and political document of partywide significance which elaborates a broad system of specific measures designed to insure a standard of ideological work that accords with the potential of developed socialism. It exerts and will continue to exert tremendous influence on the entire spiritual life of the USSR Armed Forces.

The party Central Committee resolution, Army Gen A. Yepishev, said, arms the political organs, our ideological cadres and all army and naval communists within an extensive program for the ideological education of Soviet soldiers.

The implementation of its demands is becoming the basis of all our activity in improving the combat potential of the army and navy, since people are at the center of any matter or in any question that may arise on the agenda of a commander or political worker. Success depends on people, on the level of their awareness and on their readiness and desire to contribute toward improving combat readiness.

The lofty meaning of party propaganda is to help people to get to know more fully the values of the Soviet way of life and to struggle more actively to assert them further. Ideological workers are required to respond promptly to everything new provided by our reality, and to develop in servicemen the ability to orient themselves in domestic and international events. Now, more than ever, the efficiency of propaganda is determined by the ideological and theoretical level of its content, by how accurately and profoundly it reflects the processes and phenomena of social life and by the degree to which the volume and immediacy of information accord with our people's standards of education and culture.

Army General A. Yepishev went on to draw the conference participants' attention to insuring that vital questions of combat readiness, discipline and the fostering of intolerance toward antisocial manifestations and hostile ideology and morals stand at the center of mass political work, that talks with people are frank and that no questions important to servicemen go unanswered. The ability of ideological workers to reveal graphically and convincingly the historical advantages of socialism and our social system is acquiring particularly great significance. All the forms, methods and means of ideological influence must also be subordinated to debunking the capitalist way of life and [exposing] the defects and ailments of bourgeois society and must show convincingly the true complexion of hypocritical defenders of "rights" and "freedoms."

Our propaganda, Army General A. Yepishev noted, has the task not only of informing people about events but also of teaching them independently to assess political events, to see the great truth of communist ideals and our prospects and to fight for them persistently. A person's social activity is determined by his being convinced of the correctness of our cause. Intolerance toward everything hostile and alien must become an inalienable quality of every serviceman.

In his speech, Army General A. Yepishev devoted much attention to questions of further intensifying servicemen's moral education. He dwelled in detail on the tasks connected with developing criticism and self-criticism, stressing that this is not a temporary campaign but a matter of improving all intraparty life, of insuring publicity for party work and of establishing the kind of atmosphere where businesslike criticism is received sympathetically and given comradely support. Criticism in the military press--which, on the basis of demands of the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the Further Improvement of Ideological and Political Education Work," is required to substantially improve the effectiveness of its articles--must become sharper and at the same time more businesslike and conclusive. It is essential to strive persistently to insure that every newspaper and every journal has its own character and its own readers. It is also essential to make fuller use of such powerful media as radio, television and movies and to elevate the work of clubs, houses of officers and libraries to a new standard.

Army General A. Yepishev said in conclusion that the statement contained in the CPSU Central Committee resolution--that service in the army and navy is a remarkable school of labor and military skill, moral purity and courage, patriotism and comradeship--is regarded as a lofty appraisal of the activity of commanders, political organs, party and Komsomol organizations and the ideological aktiv, and as an appraisal which imposes many obligations. In educating a serviceman we are educating a Soviet citizen, patriot and internationalist. This, too, is a statewide educational task which is entrusted to the armed forces. To justify the party's trust it is essential to insure further improvement of the forms and methods of ideological work, to improve their efficiency and influence on the fulfillment of the combat and political training plans and to the strengthening of military discipline and the combat readiness of the army and navy.

Sectional meetings were held within the context of the conference to examine topical questions of ideological work taking into account particular features of branches of the armed forces. The conference participants heard lectures on questions of CPSU theory and policy.